Guidelines for the FFC Technology-Intensive Requirement

Rationale for the Technology-Intensive (T) Requirement

Comfort and fluency with appropriate digital technology is required in every profession. Within many, if not all, disciplines, such technology is used to access, collect, manage, evaluate, and disseminate data appropriate to that field. Although the specific type(s) may vary by discipline, an ability to acquire aptitude in one or more forms of digitaltechnology is an essential skill. The technology-intensive requirement will provide studentswith substantive experience with discipline- or course-specific software-based technology and develop a baseline aptitude for future acquisition of such technology skills. Courses designated as technology-intensive will provide specific instruction in the effective use of one or more forms of software-based technology.

Learning Goal for the Technology-Intensive (T) Requirement

Courses to be tagged as satisfying the technology-intensive course requirementmust aim to fulfill the following learning goal: Upon successful completion of the technology-intensive requirement, students should be able to:

1. use a form of digital, software-based, technology to meaningfully address a substantive problem or situation.

Criteria for Technology-Intensive (T) Designation

1. The designated technology must be software-based and its use must berelevant to a specific field or discipline.
    a. This might include the following (among other possible options):
        i. Applications for accessing, collecting, analyzing, and/or managing data.
        ii. Technology used for modeling, simulation, or visualization.
        iii. Software used for creative expression or statistical analysis.
        iv. Computer programming.
    b. Use of word processing software, presentation technology (e.g., PowerPoint), or a Course Management System (e.g. Moodle) is insufficient to satisfy this requirement.

2. The course must include graded assignments that require students to engage with one or more specific forms of software-based technology.
    a. Assignments should be required at regular intervals throughout the term: a course requiring only the completion of a single project due at the end of the semester would not fulfill this requirement; however, if such a project represents a culmination of graded assignments over the duration of the term, the course would satisfy this criterion.

3. At least 25% of the course grade must be based on assignments that use the specified technology.

4. The course must provide formal classroom instruction in the effective use of the specified technology.
    a. This might include the following (among other possible options):
        i. Modeling techniques and elements of technology use during class.
        ii. In-class lectures aimed at providing methods and building skill towards effective use of the technology.
        iii. Incorporating group work or peer review focused on the effective use of technology.
            i.

Guidelines for FFC Designation: Technology-Intensive (T)

Technology-Intensive (T) tags are requested through either the New Course Proposal (NCP) process or the Course Change Request (CCR) process, both of which are governed by the Curricular Policies Committee (CPC). Both the NCP and CCR forms ask faculty to respond to the following prompts:

1. Will at least 25% of the course grade be based on assignments that use the specified technology?

2. Will the course require students to use software-based technology that is relevant to the specific field or discipline?

3. Will the course include graded assignments that require students to engage with one or more specific forms of software-based technology?

4. Describe how the instructor will provide formal classroom instruction in the effective use of the specified technology.

Once approved by CPC, the course will begin carrying the new T tag in the following academic year because the College Catalog can only be updated annually (e.g., if approved by CPC 2021-2022, the new tag will become active for 2022-2023).

In rare situations, a Course Change Request (CCR) can lead to a "tag transition issue" where a course is being taught with new tags in mind, but the new tags won't actually take effect until the following academic year. In such cases, a student who prefers that their records reflect the new (not-yet-official) tags can submit an individual appeal to the Academic Appeals Board (AAB) for this exception.

Assessment of the FFC Technology-Intensive (T) Requirement

Generally, the Assessment Committee will choose to assess a subset of FFC tags each year. However, given the sheer breadth and complexity of the technology represented by T tags, the Assessment Committee has decided to leave assessment of technology courses to the experts in their respective departments.