



Course Component Descriptions

Effective Fall Term 2020

Components are used by the Registrar's office to arrange meeting patterns for courses, determine course evaluation questions, and to inform decisions about assigning graduate students to courses as Assistants in Instruction.

Current definitions for all components can be found below.

Class:

An instructional unit combining formal presentations, review, and interactional activities and problem-solving among the students and teacher or among the students themselves. A class component is sometimes a stand-alone component, and sometimes offered with a lecture. However, it is a primary component only if it is the only component type.

Drill:

The intensive, practical language training component of a language course. A drill is never the primary component of a course.

Ear Training:

The intensive, practical, musical training component of a course. Ear training is never the primary component of a course.

Film:

The component of a course in which films are presented for discussion or review in another component of the course. Film is never the primary component of a course.

Laboratory:

The hands-on workshop component of a science course, usually held in a laboratory. A lab is rarely the primary component of a course.

Lecture:

A large class, a lecture may consist of formal presentations from the instructor as well as structured opportunities for interaction between the students and the instructor or among the

students themselves. If a course has a lecture component, it is the primary, graded component, and includes all enrolled students.

Precept:

Small, interactive meetings, usually limited to about 15 students each. There are usually several precepts for each lecture. A precept is never the primary component of a course.

Practicum (*new*):

A hands-on, workshop component of a course, which may be held in a classroom or in the field. A practicum is never the primary component of a course. It may be offered with a lecture, in which case it may supplement a precept, or with a seminar or class. The practicum component is appropriate for recurring, weekly meetings that involve group field work or data collection off campus, interactive presentations or discussions of works-in-progress, or other hands-on projects.

Seminar:

Highly interactive meetings that are usually several hours in duration, usually with no more than 18 students. Typically, the only component of a course, in which case it is the primary, graded component.

Studio:

A hands-on, workshop component of a visual arts, dance, theater, music theater, or architecture course. A studio component is usually the primary component of a course.