Committee on Educational Policy  
Policy on Disciplinary Communication (DC) Instructors

Under Senate By-law 13.17.5, CEP is empowered to condition approval of curricula on the "appropriateness of the assignment of" particular instructors to particular courses.

Senate faculty are best positioned to provide instruction in disciplinary communication. Accordingly, CEP expects that departments assign ladder-rank faculty to teach the DC curriculum whenever feasible, and that faculty provide the instruction in and feedback on writing and other forms of communication. In some cases this might not be possible, however, in many cases experienced, non-senate faculty will be an excellent alternative or Graduate Student Instructors; they must have demonstrated competence in communications in the discipline and (for graduate students) must be well-trained and supervised. If Graduate Student Teaching Assistants are providing some of the writing/communications instruction or feedback (e.g., in discussion sections), they must be well trained and closely mentored and supervised by the instructor of record. In no case will CEP approve an Undergraduate Teaching Assistant (UTA) to provide writing/communications instruction or feedback. If UTAs are teaching discussion sections or laboratories in courses that are part of the DC curriculum, they are limited to teaching and/or grading the non DC aspects, the non-writing content of the course.

In the UTA taught sections, the instructor of record must provide all the instruction in writing and other forms of communications, and must perform all the evaluation and feedback on writing and other forms of communication.