IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY

Department of Food Science & Human Nutrition

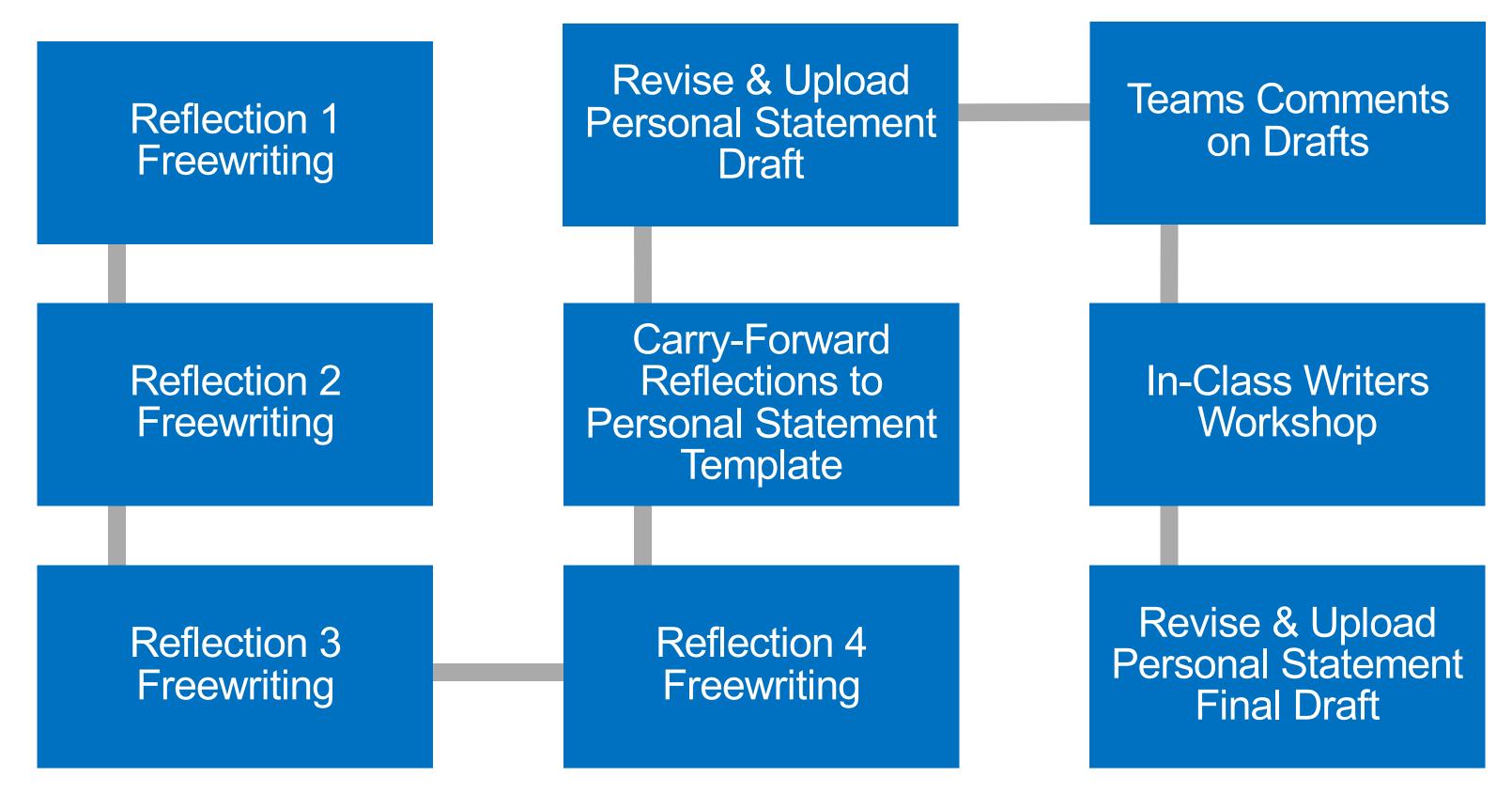
Center for Excellence in Learning & Teaching (CELT)

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Eliminating Writer's Block: Flipped Classroom Meets ThinkSpace



Methods



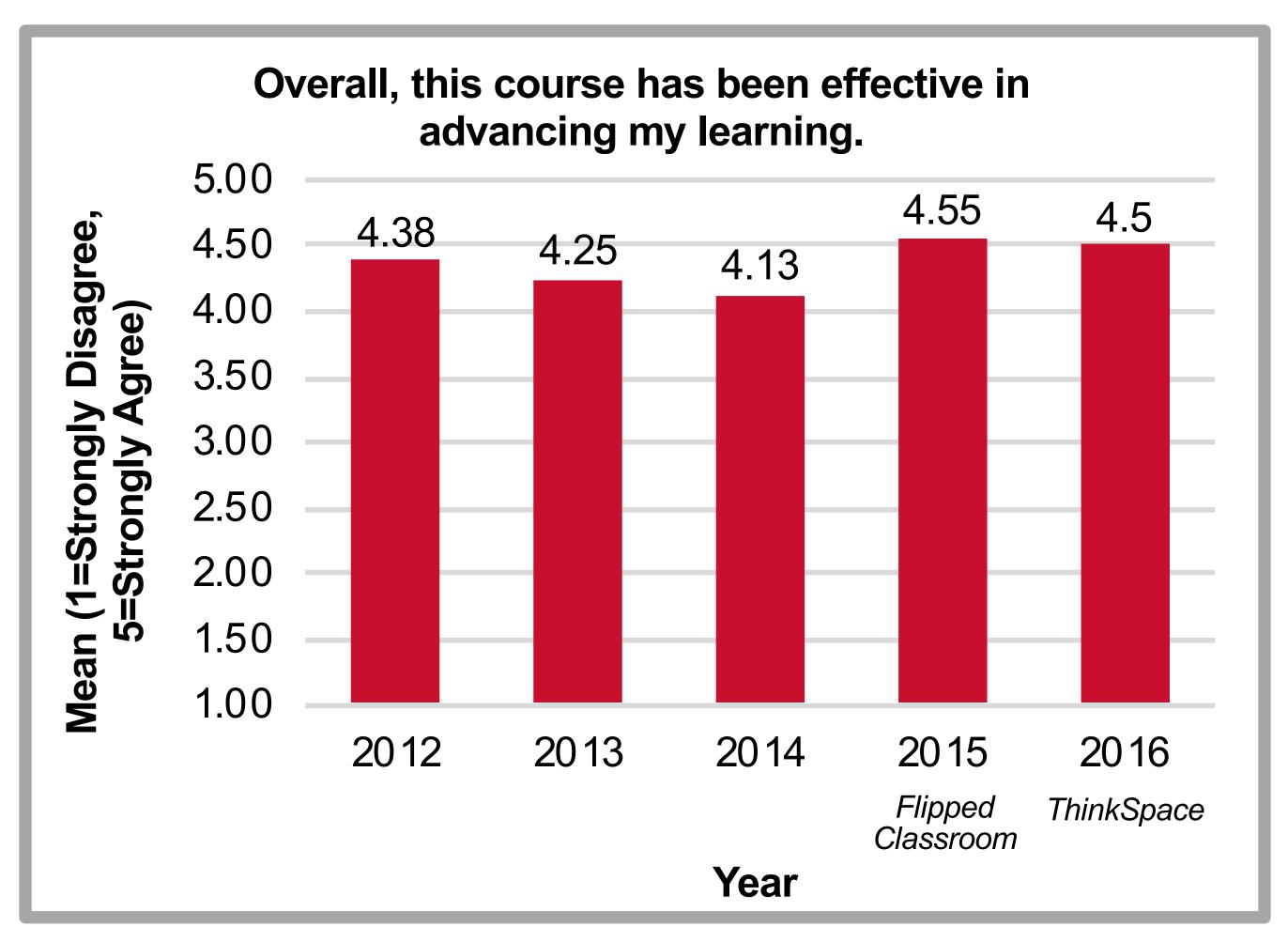


Background

- Students find writing the personal statement to be a challenging and anxiety-producing aspect of the internship application.
- We previously implemented Flipped Classroom and small group learning approaches into the Foundations of Dietetics course.
- While these strategies facilitated peer feedback on personal statements, students lacked a structured system for providing comments and were limited with in-class time to provide feedback.

Results

Student Evaluation Scores



- Difference between 2014 and 2015 is statistically significant (p<0.05)
- Standard deviations are lower in 2015 and 2016 suggesting more agreement among students than in the previous three years

Student Evaluation Comments

"I enjoyed being able to peer review other students personal statements because it gave me a better understanding of how to write my personal statement and I received very good constructive criticism on how to better my personal statement. I liked doing the peer review outside of class so that we had time to give thorough feedback rather than being rushed."

"Being able to get feedback via ThinkSpace on my personal statement was very helpful in developing a better final draft."

"A flipped classroom has really been beneficial in understanding the process of how to apply for a dietetic internship. It has also helped me get to know my other peers of whom I have in my current classes."