

Writing Proficiency Requirements

Writing Proficiency Requirements

WSU faculty, administration, and regents have identified writing proficiency as a priority at WSU. Accordingly, all students will satisfy specified requirements to meet WSU's writing proficiency standards for graduation. The requirements are outlined below:

1. Writing Experience within General Education

- a. All students must satisfy the Communication Proficiency requirement by passing 6 hours of written and oral communication courses, including at least 3 in written communication [W] at Tier I, and 3 of either [W] or [C] at Tier II.
- b. Prior to enrollment in freshman writing courses, all students must take a Writing Placement Examination for the purpose of placement in appropriate writing courses. These placements are mandatory. The Writing Placement Examination is administered during summer New Student Orientation, at the beginning of fall semester, and prior to spring registration. Examination results will place students in the core writing course, Engl 101, Introductory Writing (or Engl 198), or in Engl 101 plus one hour of Engl 102, Writing Tutorial. Students whose first language is not English may be placed in Engl 105, Composition for ESL Students, or Engl 104, Intermediate Grammar and Basic Skills ESL. In some instances, students may be exempted from Engl 101 on the basis of their performance in the Placement Examination. For more information, contact the Writing Assessment Office in CUE 305, or call 509-335-7959 or visit us at www.writingprogram.wsu.edu.
- c. All Honors College students are required to take the Honors College Writing Diagnostic for placement into Honors 298—Honors Writing and Research. The Honors College Writing Diagnostic is offered during the first and third sessions of Alive!, during a session scheduled during the Week of Welcome in conjunction with the Honors College Orientation, and in conjunction with spring semester priority registration. All students who have been admitted to WSU's Honors College must take the Honors College Writing Diagnostic unless they have credit for a 200-level composition course from another college or university. An AP score of 4 or higher in English composition does NOT fulfill this requirement. For more information, contact the Writing Assessment Office in CUE 305, or call 509-335-7959 or visit us at www.writingprogram.wsu.edu.
- d. General Education courses require student writing of various kinds, both formal and informal, in order to provide adequate instruction in writing skills and to provide a wide range of student experiences in writing for many purposes and audiences.

2. The University Writing Portfolio—Writing Assessment at Mid-Career

Successful completion of the University Writing Portfolio is a requirement for graduation at WSU. Students must satisfy this requirement once they have earned 60 credit hours. To complete the University Writing Portfolio, students must submit three papers they have written as a result of previously assigned college course work and take a timed writing exam consisting of two writing exercises. Upon completion of 60 credit hours, students are given two semesters to satisfy the Junior Writing Portfolio. The University Writing Portfolio must be completed before a student enrolls in an [M] course (see below). Visit www.writingportfolio.wsu.edu for more information.

3. Writing in the Major [M]

Two courses identified as writing in the major [M] must be included in course work taken to meet departmental requirements. Consult the requirements in the department in which you intend to major. Students must complete the University Writing Portfolio before enrolling in an [M] course.

Transfer students who have completed an approved Associate of Arts (AA) or Associate of Science (AS) degree at a Washington or Oregon community college are considered to have fulfilled the lower-division General Education Requirements. These students will still be responsible for meeting the other requirements for graduation, including those in the college and major departments. The University Writing Portfolio and the upper-division capstone course are not lower-division requirements and therefore cannot be satisfied by the approved associate degrees.

University Graduation Requirements

(Note: Students attending Washington State University Vancouver should refer to the Vancouver Campus section of this catalog for information on general education requirements. See catalog.wsu.edu/Catalog/Content/VancouverCampus.pdf).

IMPORTANT: Students with initial postsecondary enrollment prior to fall 1993 should consult with the Registrar's Office. University Honors College students do not complete GERs. Contact the Honors College for additional information.

General Education Requirements

Communication Proficiency [W] [C]

At least 3 must be Written [W]

- Engl 101 or 105 3 cr
- choose one _____ 3 cr

World Civilization [A]

- GenEd 110 3 cr
- GenEd 111 3 cr

Mathematics Proficiency [N]

- choose one _____ 3 or 4 cr

Arts and Humanities [H][G]

- choose one _____ 3 cr

Social Sciences [S][K]

- choose one _____ 3 cr

Arts and Humanities [H][G] or Social Sciences [S][K]

- choose one _____ 3 cr

Intercultural Studies [I][G][K]

- choose one _____ 3 cr

Sciences [B][P][Q]

10 semester credits including 1 hour of lab (L). At least 3 credits must be Biological Sciences [B] and 3 credits must be Physical Sciences [P].

- choose one lab science (L) _____ 4 cr
- choose one _____ 3 or 4 cr
- choose one _____ 3 or 4 cr

American Diversity [D]

(For students with Initial Postsecondary Enrollment beginning Fall Semester 2000.)

Meets both the [D] requirement and another GER course designation.

- choose one _____

Additional graduation requirements

COLLEGE OF SCIENCES COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS

All students, including community college transfer students with an approved transferable AA degree from Washington, Oregon, Idaho, California, Arizona, or Hawaii, or students pursuing a second bachelor's degree in the majors in these colleges, will be held to the following requirements:

Foreign Language

Complete 2 years high school or 1 year of college in a single foreign language.

Additional 6 semester credits of [H,G,I,S,K]

For a total of 18 semester credits in [H][G][I][S][K] courses.

- choose one [H,G,I,S,K] _____ 3 cr
- choose one [H,G,I,S,K] _____ 3 cr

Additional 2 semester credits and 1 additional lab science

For a total of 12 semester credits of GER sciences and 2 lab (L) courses.

Upper-Division Requirements

All community college transfer students with an approved transferable degree will be held to these requirements:

Tier III Course (GER)

(For students with Initial Postsecondary Enrollment beginning Fall Semester 1995.)

- choose one _____ 3 cr

University Writing Portfolio/Qualifying Exam

Students must satisfy this requirement once they have earned 60 credit hours.

Writing in the Major [M]

Required for all majors. Consult your major department for details.

- choose one _____
- choose one _____

Minimum University graduation requirements: 120 total hours, 40 upper-division credit hours, and a 2.0 overall grade point average.

- Initial postsecondary enrollment is established by matriculation through a formal admission process, after high school graduation, to an accredited institution of higher education.
- An approved transferable AA degree from Washington, Oregon, Idaho, California, Arizona or Hawaii completes all lower division GER requirements except for the additional requirements in the College of Liberal Arts and the College of Sciences.
- [G] meets a GER in either Intercultural Studies or Arts and Humanities; [K] meets a GER in either Intercultural Studies or Social Sciences; (L) course includes a lab; [D] meets the American Diversity requirement and another GER course designation.

Prepared by the Student Advising and Learning Center