Writing Program

Writing Program courses are designed to help students become the most proficient writers possible. The courses stress the writing process, along with purpose, audience, correctness, research techniques, and visual layout. Integrated Reading and Writing is designed to prepare students for success in Freshman Composition. Freshman Composition I focuses primarily on informative academic writing and introduces persuasive writing, while Freshman Composition II focuses on argument and persuasion. Freshman Composition I and II papers emphasize the use of source material and appropriate documentation of that material. All of the classes include an oral component, providing time for students to practice and sharpen their oral presentation skills. These courses prepare students for demands of the academic and professional worlds. Freshman Composition I and II are also enhanced with quantitative literacy. In addition, WRC 3013 Writing Strategies for the Pre-law Student and WRC 4123 Topics in Writing further prepare students for careers in which writing is a critical skill.

Writing Program (WRC) Courses

WRC 0203. Integrated Reading and Writing. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours. Integrated Reading and Writing offers students the opportunity to increase reading and writing skills before enrollment in WRC 1013. Freshman Composition I. It affords intensive practice in the writing process, including prewriting, drafting, organization, sentence structure, and use of grammar, spelling, and punctuation. The course also offers practical instruction in strategies for improving critical reading of academic writing, such as determining word meaning; understanding main ideas and supporting details; identifying the writer’s purpose, point of view, and intended meaning; analyzing relationships among ideas; using critical reasoning when reading; and developing study skills. It also introduces synthesis, library research, and documentation. Offered on a credit/no-credit basis, the course does not satisfy any degree requirements. This course may be repeated.

WRC 1013. Freshman Composition I (Q). (3-0) 3 Credit Hours. (TCCN = ENGL 1301) Freshman Composition I focuses on developing and expressing ideas clearly and effectively to communicate with various audiences for various purposes and occasions, through written, oral, and visual venues by means of individual and team projects. Students review principles of the writing process, including planning, logical organizational and development strategies, revision, and editing. They are also introduced to rhetorical techniques (persuasion) and quantitative literacy. The course develops students’ critical thinking skills through practice with summary and paraphrase, analysis, evaluation, and synthesis of multiple sources drawn from a variety of cultural and intellectual contexts. It also offers students opportunities to reflect on their work as well as to engage in extensive library research and practice ethical decision-making through responsible selection, use, and documentation of sources. This course, or an equivalent, is required to fulfill the Core Curriculum requirement in Communication. Generally offered: Fall, Spring, Summer.

WRC 1023. Freshman Composition II (Q). (3-0) 3 Credit Hours. (TCCN = ENGL 1302) Prerequisite: WRC 1013. Building on the skills introduced in Freshman Composition I, Freshman Composition II focuses on persuasive communication. The course provides intensive writing practice in the use of logical organization and development to help students express ideas clearly and effectively, orally, visually, and in writing. Students also address varied audiences for different purposes and use different genres (e.g., essay, editorial, proposal). Freshman Composition II continues to develop quantitative literacy skills and to promote ethical decision-making through responsible methods of data gathering and analysis to produce valid arguments based on factual information and effective use of sources, including quantitative data, for support. It also offers students opportunities to reflect on their work. Students may enroll in a discipline-specific section of the course, such as business, communication (documentaries or internet arguments), engineering, environmental issues, quantitative literacy, science/pseudoscience, or social sciences. This course, or an equivalent, is required to fulfill the Core Curriculum requirement in Communication. Generally offered: Fall, Spring, Summer.

WRC 3013. Writing Strategies for the Pre-law Student. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours. Prerequisite: Completion of Core Curriculum requirement in rhetoric. This writing course is designed for students planning to become attorneys. It emphasizes clear, concise writing, as well as editing conventions necessary to produce readable and correct prose, free of jargon and inflated language. It provides students with an opportunity to improve their ability to express their understanding of law and its application to fact scenarios. The course introduces organizational strategies used to identify relevant elements of facts and law appropriate to the construction of well-written arguments and documents. Generally offered: Spring, Summer.

WRC 4123. Topics in Writing. (3-0) 3 Credit Hours. Prerequisite: Consent of instructor. Writing intensive course on various aspects of writing, such as Writing Center tutoring, scientific technical writing, legal technical writing, and writing in the disciplines. May be repeated for credit when topics vary. (Formerly WRC 3123).