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. **The WSU Writing Experience**
   a. All students must satisfy the University Common Requirements by passing 6 credits of written and oral communication courses, including at least 3 in written communication.
   b. Prior to enrollment in first-year writing courses, all students must participate in the WSU Writing Placement Process for the purpose of placement in appropriate writing and writing support courses. This process is mandatory. The Writing Placement Process is administered during the summer New Student Orientation, at the beginning of fall semester, and prior to spring registration. Placement results will fine-tune students' placement into an appropriate first-year writing course(s). In some instances, students may be exempted from ENGLISH 101 on the basis of their performance in the Placement Process or because of prior participation in a first-year composition course (e.g., through AP or similar programs). Students who are determined to be exempted from ENGLISH 101 will receive credit for the course and will be determined to have met the UCORE WRTG requirement. Exempting out of the ENGLISH 101 requirement is a rare occurrence. For more information, contact the Writing Assessment Office in Smith Center for Undergraduate Education (CUE) 305, or call 509-335-7959 or visit us at http://writingprogram.wsu.edu.
   c. Honors College students need to work with the Honors College to determine placement into first-year composition courses. For more information, contact the Honors College 509-335-4505 or visit them at http://honors.wsu.edu.
   d. University Common Requirement (UCORE) 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.
   e. 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 University Common 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.

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 credits or junior standing. The Writing Portfolio is a mid-career assessment of student progress and a diagnostic about student readiness for upper division writing challenges. Accordingly, the Portfolio must be completed before a student enrolls in Writing in the Major [M] courses. To complete the University Writing Portfolio, students must submit two papers they have written as a result of previously assigned college course work and reflect on their writing submissions in a Qualtrics survey. Visit http://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 should complete the University Writing Portfolio before enrolling in an [M] course.

WSU Graduation Requirements

University Honors College students do not complete University Common Requirements. Contact the Honors College for additional information.

Students who have completed an approved transferable A.A. degree should check the Admissions section of the catalog for more information.

UNIVERSITY COMMON REQUIREMENTS (UCORE)

These graduation requirements were developed to help students achieve WSU's Learning Goals and Outcomes. Four broad categories are divided into ten requirements; only approved classes will fulfill them. Match courses in the WSU Catalog (https://catalog.wsu.edu) to requirements using the [bracketed notation] that appears in the list below. Of the 34 total credits, only three, three-credit courses may be taken within the major.

FOUNDATIONAL REQUIREMENTS: 12 credits*

☐ Roots of Contemporary Issues [ROOT] (3 cr.)

   course: <u>History 105</u>   semester/year F Sp Su _____

☐ Quantitative Reasoning [QUAN] (3 cr.)

   course: _____   semester/year F Sp Su _____

☐ Written Communication [WRTG] (3 cr.)

   course: _____   semester/year F Sp Su _____

☐ Communication [COMM] [WRTG] (3 cr.)

   course: _____   semester/year F Sp Su _____

   *Courses meeting the Foundational Requirements should be completed within the first year.

WAYS OF KNOWING: 16 credits

☐ Inquiry in the Social Sciences [SSCI] (3 cr.)

   course: _____   semester/year F Sp Su _____

☐ Inquiry in the Humanities [HUM] (3 cr.)

   course: _____   semester/year F Sp Su _____

☐ Inquiry in the Arts [ARTS] (3 cr.)

   course: _____   semester/year F Sp Su _____

☐ Inquiry in the Natural Sciences [BSCI] [PSCI] (7 cr.)*

   course: _____(L)   semester/year F Sp Su _____

   course: _____   semester/year F Sp Su _____

   *At least 7 credits comprised of one course in Biological Science [BSCI] and one course in Physical Science [PSCI], including one lab. Students in the College of Arts and Sciences complete one additional lab credit for a total of 8 semester credits.

DIVERSITY: 3 credits

☐ Diversity [DIVR]

   course: _____   semester/year F Sp Su _____

INTEGRATIVE LEARNING: 3 credits

☐ Integrative Capstone [CAPS]

   course: _____   semester/year F Sp Su _____

UNIVERSITY GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

☐ 120 semester credits (or total credits for a specific degree program) of which 30 minimum are from Washington State University.

☐ 40 Upper Division (300/400 level) semester credits

☐ 2.0 minimum cumulative grade point average

☐ Completion of Writing Proficiency and UCORE requirements and college requirements, if applicable (see below)

☐ Completion of requirements for major including a minimum 2.0 cumulative GPA in the major (see relevant catalog section)

WRITING PROFICIENCY REQUIREMENTS

Graduation requirements that all students must complete:

☐ University Writing Portfolio/Qualifying Exam (to be completed when a student reaches 60 semester credits).

☐ Writing in the Major [M] courses*

   course: _____   semester/year F Sp Su _____

   course: _____   semester/year F Sp Su _____

   *For more information about these, refer to the WSU Writing Program (https://writingprogram.wsu.edu) or the WSU Catalog (https://catalog.wsu.edu).

COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS

All students, including transfer students with an approved transferable associate's degree, or students pursuing a second bachelor's degree in the majors in this college, will be held to the following requirements:

☐ Foreign Language: Complete 2 years of high school or 1 year of college-level foreign language (includes ASL or NAL) in the same language.

☐ Additional 3 semester credits of [SSCI], [HUM], or [ARTS]

☐ Additional 1 lab credit of [BSCI] or [PSCI] for a total of 8 semester credits (2 labs)

Prepared by the Academic Success and Career Center