Graduation Writing Assessment Requirement


2.0 Proficiency in Writing
2.1. San Diego State University students shall demonstrate proficiency in writing skills as a requirement for graduation. Such skills shall incorporate basic rules of good writing, subject to the argument, format, logical development, demonstration of evidence, and style appropriate to various disciplines. Furthermore, departments and schools should insist upon effective expression in their courses and should stress the need for improving substandard writing.

2.2. Certification of Upper Division Writing Proficiency: Students shall enroll in one intensive upper division writing course (W) or two disciplinary writing courses (DW).
   a) Completion of an approved writing course(s) with a minimum grade of C or Cr shall mean the student has met the Certification of Upper Division Writing Proficiency.
Graduation Writing Assessment
Requirement Procedures
Student Learning Outcomes and Guidelines for “W”
Courses Fulfilling the Graduation Writing Assessment
Requirement
1. In order to prepare students to write in and for a specific
discipline, they will practice writing that includes the following
components:
   a. Disciplinary means of argumentation and exposition.
   b. Disciplinary ways of reasoning, analyzing,
synthesizing, and evaluating.
   c. Disciplinary formats, genres, and conventions.
   d. Disciplinary vocabulary and prose style.
2. In addition, students will
   a. Write with an awareness of general or specific
      audiences outside of their major disciplines (for
      example, ability to convey information or perspectives
      relevant to a discipline or to an audience beyond it).
   b. Demonstrate an understanding of the rhetorical
      situation-purpose, context, and audience.
   c. Apply writing processes effectively (i.e., research,
prewriting, drafting, revision, and editing).
   d. Actively read texts using a variety of reading
      strategies such as annotation, visual
organizers, questioning, and discussion.
   e. Produce a minimum of 2,000 words
      of writing per credit unit.
Students in “W” courses who are still working to master standard
written English will find help and support for their particular
needs in these classes.
The University Writing Committee wishes to support departments
in their creation or adaptation of writing courses and will be
offering both general advisory sessions and ongoing assistance
on a consultative basis.
Existing Courses: Departments must submit the writing
requirement proposal with college approval to Curriculum Services
for university-wide processing.
New Courses: The same course template will be completed
and the appropriate proposal type for a writing course must be
selected in the cover sheet. New course proposals follow the regular
university curriculum process. All writing course proposals
are submitted for consideration to the University Writing Committee
after approval at the college level and review by the academic
deans.
Whenever possible, departments should use course numbers
already established in other departments to designate an upper
division writing course. The “W” suffix should be used for all such
courses.
Basic Prerequisite Statement for All Upper
Division “W” Courses
Satisfies Graduation Writing Assessment Requirement for students
who have completed 60 units; completed Writing Placement
Assessment with a score of 8 or higher (or earned a grade
of C (2.0) or better in Rhetoric and Writing Studies 280, 281 [or
Linguistics 281] if score on WPA was 6 or lower); and completed
General Education requirements in Communication and Critical
Thinking. Proof of completion of prerequisites required: Test
scores or verification of exemption; copy of transcript.