

WRITING INTENSIVE COURSES

CUW GUIDELINES

The purpose of Writing Intensive (WI) courses is to improve students' writing skills by giving them an **advanced** level of writing instruction, experience, and feedback in courses within a particular academic discipline.

In order to be designated a W course, the following criteria must be met:

1. Students will be required to do a significant amount of writing. The syllabus will specify the general writing requirements of the course. For a three-credit course, this will include a minimum of 16 pages (**approximately** 4,000 words) of graded **and/or low-stakes** writing assignments, **some of which** have been reviewed (by the instructor, classmates, or a writing tutor) and revised at least one time before grading. At least one graded assignment must be **about** 6 pages in length.
2. Students will receive instruction in writing. The syllabus will identify the objectives of the writing instruction and how this instruction will take place.
 - a. This instruction will include devoting class time to developing student skills for the particular writing assignment.
 - b. Instruction will include a requirement that students review **some** drafts with the instructor, classmates, or tutors in the Academic Resource Center or Writing Center before submission for final grading.
 - c. Instruction **may also include** required conferences between the instructor and student for purposes of reviewing drafts.
3. Class size for W courses will be limited to 20 students.

The English Department will provide a **sample** rubric for W courses, help develop rubrics for specialized forms of writing, and offer assistance to instructors of W courses as needed.

Though ENG 104 (Introduction to Writing) meets all of the requirements listed above, it does not count as a W course. Senior Seminar classes will be identified as W courses in specific circumstances.

***Emphasis added**