

UMBC UGC Program Changes & Other Request: Writing Intensive Requirement

Date Submitted: 11-10-15

Proposed Effective Date: Fall 2016

	Name	Email	Phone	Dept
Dept Chair or UPD	Writing Board Representative- Jill Randles	jrandles@umbc.edu	X5-3715	
Other Contact	Diane Lee	dlee@umbc.edu	X 5-2859	

Specifics (see instructions):

The Writing Board recommends that a change in pre-requisites be implemented for all current and future courses approved as meeting the writing intensive requirement (WI). The Board recommends that prior to taking a writing intensive course students must have completed ENGL 100 or its equivalent. To date, departments have not been required to list English composition as a pre-requisite, but the Board feels strongly that this should be an expectation.

Rationale (see instructions):

The Writing Board is making this request at this time because we feel it is something that should have been a consideration when the writing intensive requirement was developed. This need is now more evident since the campus has moved forward with requiring students to complete ENGL 100 in their first 30 credits and also with the expectations in Senate Bill 740, which has asked for the completion of English Composition to occur at an even earlier point in the first year. When the Writing Board first proposed this requirement, the hope was that WI courses would be limited to 300- and 400-level classes, which normally would mean that students would have completed English Composition. Since what was finally approved did not specify that WI courses had to be upper-level, we do have a few classes that students could very likely take as WI before completing ENGL 100. Additionally, there is nothing to stop a department from requesting a WI designation for a lower level class; although such an occurrence is not likely. We feel that it is important to close this very important loop-hole, so we can ensure that students are taking their WI course having utilized our curriculum to give them the best possible opportunity to complete the WI course at a high level.

Responses to WI Program Change-Adding ENGL 100 to all WI
Courses as a Prerequisite

	A	B	C	D
1	Department	Responder	Yes	No
2	American Studies	Nicole King, Chair	X	
3	Biology	Philip Farabaugh, Chair	x	
4	Chemistry	Zeev Rosenzweig, Chair	x	
5	Computer Science	Anupam Joshi, Chair	x	
6	Dance	Doug Hamby, Acting Chair	x	
7	Education	Eugene Schaffer, Chair, Cheryl North	x	
8	Emergency Health Services	Bruce Walz, Chair	x	
9	English	Orianne Smith, Chair	x	
10	Gender and Women's Studies	Carole Mccann, Chair	x	
11	Geography and Env. Science	Matthew Baker, Acting Chair	x	
12	Global Studies	Brigid Starky, Acting Director (for Hagerty)	x	
13	History	Marjoleine Kars, Chair	x	
14	Interdisciplinary Studies	Stephen Freeland, Director	x	
15	Management of Aging Studies	Galina Madjaroff, UG Program Director (UPD)	x	
16	Mathematics	Rouben Rostamian, Chair	x	
17	Mechanical Engineering	Anne Spence UPD, Chuck Eggleton, Chair	x	
18	MLLI	Omar Ka, Chair	x	
19	Music	Linda Dusman, Chair	x	
20	Philosophy	Steve Yalowitz, Chair	x	
21	Physics	Michael Hayden, Chair	x	
22	Psychology	Chris Murphy, Chair, Zee Warwick, UPD	x	
23	Social Work	Carolyn Tice, Chair	x	
24	Visual Arts	Preminda Jacob, Chair	x	
25				
26				
27				
28				
29				
30				
31				
32				
33	Email documentation attached			

C. Jill Randles <jrandles@umbc.edu>

Oct
12

to Diane, bcc: Tyson, bcc: (Paula), bcc: David, bcc: Constantine, bcc: Philip, bcc: Brian, bcc: Zeev, bcc: Anupam, bcc: Carol, bcc: Doug, bcc: David, bcc: Eugene, bcc: Bruce, bcc: Orianne, bcc: Carole, bcc: Matthew, bcc: Marjoleine, bcc: Stephen, bcc: Aryya, bcc: Rouben, bcc: Charles, bcc: Jason, bcc: Omar, bcc: Linda

Dear Department Chairs and Program Directors,

I am writing on behalf of the members of the Writing Board (WB) to request your support for a change related to the Writing Intensive Program. I apologize for the length of this e-mail, but many of you probably do not know the history of the Writing Board.

WB members are hoping to move forward with a request to the Undergraduate Council (UGC) that all Writing Intensive (WI) courses have ENGL 100, or its equivalent, formally listed in the catalog and schedule of classes as a pre-requisite. Many of your WI courses are upper-level and this change will have no impact on the students in your classes, but we know there is some potential for impact on those courses that are currently WI that are 100- and 200-level courses.

When the Writing Board first developed the WI proposal, at the request of the General Education Committee, the hope was that WI courses would be limited to 300- and 400-level classes, which normally would mean that students would have completed English Composition. Since what was finally approved did not specify that WI courses had to be upper-level, we do have a few classes that students could very likely take as WI before completing ENGL 100, although Senate Bill 740 minimizes the likelihood of this happening. Additionally, in what was approved, there is nothing to stop a department from requesting a WI designation for a lower level class. Although such an occurrence is not likely, we feel that it is important to close this very important loop-hole. By doing so, we can ensure that students are taking their Writing Intensive course having utilized our curriculum to give them the best possible opportunity to complete the WI course at a high level.

As we move this change forward, it is important for us to have the support of departments offering WI courses. This change will mean that ENGL 100 will have to be listed as a pre-requisite on your current and future WI listings. After talking with the chair of the UGC, it was agreed that this change could be facilitated through the WB's request as long as we have e-mail confirmation of each department's approval. This would mean that each of you would not have to submit your own program change to the UGC. It is our hope that this will make the approval process easier for everyone involved. Once approved, we will also make this change known to the Registrar's Office and facilitate the necessary changes in the catalog and schedule of classes.

If you are comfortable with us moving this request through the UGC, you need only indicate that in an e-mail response to me. If you have questions regarding this, we certainly want to have an opportunity to address those concerns. Simply share those questions with me, and I will make sure the Board members review your questions.

Response Request: It is my hope that I could have responses from all departments no later than November 4, 2015 for review by the UGC at their December 3rd meeting.

Thank you so much for the work you and your department have already done in support of the WI program. It is our hope that this change will serve to improve the student outcomes in your departmental WI offerings.

Best,
Jill

Nov 5 (4 days ago)

C. Jill Randles <jrandles@umbc.edu>

to Anne, Charles, bcc: me

Hi Anne,

I know we went back and forth a bit in discussing ENGL100 as a prerequisite for WI courses. In looking back over my e-mails, I could not find that our communications ever made it to whether your department could support this effort or not.

Can you let me know if you all support the Writing Board moving this forward through the UGC?

Thanks ever so much.

Best,
Jill

--

Jill Randles

Assistant Vice Provost and Assistant Dean
Undergraduate Education

Office Location: Sherman Hall (ACAD IV) A-Wing, Suite 114

jrandles@umbc.edu

[410-455-3715](tel:410-455-3715)

"Good friends help you to find important things when you have lost them...your smile, your hope, and your courage." Doe Zantamata



Dr. Anne Spence

Nov 7 (2 days ago)

to me

I believe that we talked about it. Our department has already done this and I thought that all departments had done this. So, yes, we support it.

Anne

Dr. Anne Spence
Professor of the Practice
Interim Director CWIT (Center for Women in Technology)
Undergraduate Program Director
Director of Project Lead the Way
Dept. of Mechanical Engineering
UMBC

Mike Hayden

Oct
12

to me

Jill,

This is ok in Physics.

Mike

Michael Hayden
Professor and Chair
Department of Physics, UMBC
1000 Hilltop Circle
Baltimore, MD 21250

Oct
12

Anupam Joshi

to Richard, E, Nilanjan, me, Diane

Hi Jill,

I checked with my colleagues, and we're good with this.
thanks

Oct
12

Stephen Freeland

to me

Dear Jill,

I think this would be a very good and significant step forwards in administering the spirit of WI - I am in full support,

Steve

Brigid Starkey

Oct
12

to me

Thank you, Jill. That answers my question and points me in the right direction.

So, the Program in Global Studies does approve of the pre-requisite change for the WI requirement, then.

Best,

Brigid

Brigid Starkey, PhD
Senior Lecturer, Political Science
Acting Director for Fall 2015, Global Studies

Oct
12

Omar Ka

to Steven, Elaine, me, Diane

Dear Jill,

The MLLI department approves of the change in pre-requisite.

Thank you,

Omar

Dr. Omar Ka, Chair
Department of Modern Languages, Linguistics & Intercultural Communication
UMBC

Oct
12

Steve Yalowitz

to me

Hi Jill,

This proposal is fine with the Philosophy Dept.

Carolyn Tice

Oct
12

to me

Jill,

I am comfortable with the WI proposal.

Thanks, Carolyn

Orianne Smith

Oct
12

to me

This sounds good to me!

Orianne

Oct
14

Doug Hamby

to me

Hi Jill,

I support making ENG 100 a pre-requisite for the WI courses.

Thanks,

Doug Hamby
Acting Chair of Dance (Carol Hess approved as well)

Rouben Rostamian <rostamian@umbc.edu>

Oct
14

to me

Hi Jill,

We have two 400-level WI courses in my department. I don't expect adding an ENGL 100 prerequisite to impact them in significant ways, therefore you have my OK.

Rouben

--

Rouben Rostamian, Professor and Chair phone: [410-455-2458](tel:410-455-2458)
Department of Mathematics and Statistics email: rostamian@umbc.edu

Oct
14

Preminda Jacob

to me, Diane

Dear Jill,

I met with the Visual Arts Curriculum Committee today. We approve of the ENG 100 or equivalent as a pre-req. for all Writing Intensive courses.

Thanks,
Preminda

--

Dr. Preminda Jacob
Associate Professor and Chair,

Bruce J. Waiz, PhD

Oct
15

to me

EHS supports this change!!!

Christopher Murphy

Oct
17

to Zoe, me, Diane

Hi Jill:

I have copied Zoe, our undergrad program director, on this reply in case she has any additional suggestions or comments. All of the approved WI courses in Psyc are 400-level, and we do not have any plan to change that (except perhaps to add some additional courses to our list of 400-level WI options). I see no problem with including ENGL 100 as an explicit pre-req for our WI courses, but would also like to point out that I believe this is not necessary. In our new major requirements, ENGL 100 is a pre-req for PSYC 211, which is a required course for the major. PSYC 211 is a prereq for PSYC 311, which is a prereq for all 400-level PSYC courses. Therefore, ENGL 100 is, in effect, required before anyone can take a PSYC WI course.

Chris Murphy

Zoe Forsyth

Oct
17

to Christopher, me, Diane

Jill,

As Chris stated, ENGL 100 is already prerequisite for WI courses in PSYC. I see no problem with stating this explicitly.

Zoe

Zoe S. Warwick, Ph.D.
Undergraduate Program Director
Department of Psychology

Oct
18

Philip Farabaugh

to me

The Biology Department approves of this change. Phil

Carole Mccann

Oct 27 (13 days ago)

to me

Jill,

GWST faculty met and discussed this change. We are fully supportive of it.

Marjoleine Kars

Nov 6 (3 days ago)

to me

Jill,

History is ok with this proposal, though some faculty are worried about transfer students....I am sure you have thought about them.

Best,

Marjoleine

Nicole King

Nov 5 (4 days ago)

to me

Jill,

As chair of the Department of American Studies, I approve of ENGL 100 as a prerequisite for WI courses.

Best,

Nicole

Nicole King, Ph.D.
Associate Professor & Chair

Galina Madjaroff

Nov 5 (4 days ago)

to me

Hi Jill-

Our department supports the ENGL 100 pre-requisite for our writing intensive courses. Galina

Galina Madjaroff

Clinical Assistant Professor
Undergraduate Program Director

Nov 5 (4 days ago)

Matthew Baker

to me

Hi Jill

GES supports this change.

Nov 5 (4 days ago)

Zeev Rosenzweig

to Paul, me

Dear Jill,

The proposed change will not have a significant impact on our students since our WI courses are all 300 and 400 level courses. I strongly support any effort to enhance the writing communication skills of our students.

Kind regards,

Zeev Rosenzweig
Professor and Chair
Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry

Linda Dusman

Nov 6 (3 days ago)

to me

Hi Jill, Sounds great to me! best, Linda

Dr. Linda Dusman
Professor of Music and Chair
UMBC Department of Music
dusman@umbc.edu
410-455-5960

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Course Reviews and Approvals

The following courses have been designated Writing Intensive.

AGNG 200	AGNG 321	AMST 300	AMST 490	ANCS 320
ANTH 312	ANTH 318	ARCH 340	ART 335	ART 347
ART 424	ART 425	BIOL 410	BIOL 414	BIOL 420
BIOL 425	BIOL 426	BIOL 443	BIOL 445	BIOL 451
BIOL 453	BIOL 454	BIOL 456	BIOL 480	BIOL 483
BIOL 499L	CHEM 437L	CHEM 312L	CMPE 349	CMSC 304
CMSC 345	DANC 325	ECON 382	ECON 418	ECON 442
ECON 443	ECON 444	EDUC 411	EDUC 414	EHS 301
ENCH 225L	ENCH 437L	ENCH 468	ENCH 485L	ENGL 301
ENGL 364	ENGL 393	ENGL 414	ENME 204	ENME 332
ENME 432L	GERM 401	GES 319	GES 326	GES 328
GES 329	GLBL 301	GWST 300	GWST 330	GWST 364
GWST 378	GWST 495	HAPP 329	HAPP 411 – only through Fall 2014	
HCST 100	HIST 445	HIST 446	HIST 496	HIST 497
HIST 499	HONORS 300	HONORS 216	INDS 330	INDS 330L
IS 369	IS 439	MATH 432	MATH 481	MCS 355
MLL 370	MLL 371	MUSC 321	MUSC 322	MUSC 351
MUSC 480	MUSC 485	PHYS 330L	POLI 281	POLI 301
POLI 337	POLI 353	POLI 360	POLI 438	POLI 446
POLI 470	POLI 471	POLI 490	PSYC 400	PSYC 405
PSYC 406	PSYC 407	PSYC 409	PSYC 415	PSYC 421
PSYC 437	PSYC 440	PSYC 441	PSYC 442	PSYC 448
PSYC 455	PSYC 463	PSYC 465	RUSS 310	RUSS 311

Resources For:

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SOCY 433	SOCY 451	SOWK 360	SOWK 397	SOWK 48
SOWK 483	SPAN 401	THTR 410	THTR 411	VPA 325

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Phone: (410) 455-5752

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