

CHAPTER 9: WHAT COMES NEXT?

Research into the writing process shows that the use of writing as a part of the learning process and frequency of writing are both crucial to improving and maintaining the writing skills and critical thinking processes that students acquire in their First-Year Writing classes. What's more, employers consistently report on the importance of basic communication skills, especially in writing, for the workplace. Research has also suggested a close connection between reading and writing proficiency, and UGA students have shown that they enjoy reading and discussing books outside their formal classes. For all of these reasons, the University of Georgia encourages you to seek out other opportunities for practice in reading and writing. We would like to conclude by telling you about future opportunities to practice your literacy skills, to use writing as a powerful learning tool, and to develop the writing skills that will be important for your professional careers.

WRITING CERTIFICATE PROGRAM

The University of Georgia offers an interdisciplinary certificate program in writing. The purpose of the Writing Certificate Program (WCP) is to give undergraduate students from all colleges and majors at the University of Georgia an opportunity to develop and document their writing skills as they move from First-Year Writing through the core curriculum and their academic majors en route to further education, professional training, or the workplace. Their writing skills will be developed in the context of their particular academic studies and interests and will be documented in a capstone electronic portfolio developed in a one-hour workshop course, **ENGL 4834: Electronic Writing Portfolio Workshop**, that presents and reflects on the students' writing projects and experiences throughout their undergraduate career. The writing done for the WCP will enhance students' understanding in their chosen field of study and will provide evidence to outside evaluators (such as admissions committees or employers) of the students' critical thinking, research, and communication skills, plus their understanding of genres and conventions of writing within their chosen discipline. For more information about the program, visit: <http://write.uga.edu>.

WRITING INTENSIVE PROGRAM (WIP)

The Writing Intensive Program at the University of Georgia provides students with opportunities to strengthen their writing throughout their undergraduate experience. The Program offers writing-intensive courses in varying disciplines — from Art History to Biology to Music to Sociology, for example. A key goal of the program is to foster student writing *in the disciplines* by helping students understand the conventions — or “ways of knowing” — of a particular field: how knowledge is constructed and communicated, and what rules of evidence and argumentation are practiced. To accomplish the goals of the program, each Writing Intensive Program (WIP) course is supported by a specially trained “writing coach,” who works with students to improve their writing and performance in the course by providing constructive and personal feedback. The advantages of this coaching — and WIP courses, in general — are many. A compelling majority of students enrolled in these courses consistently report that their experience with the Writing Intensive Program strengthened their writing skills; built their confidence in the writing process; encouraged a deeper engagement in course content, discussions, and assignments; taught them the writing conventions of their discipline; heightened their critical thinking skills; and prepared them for writing in other courses and future goals, such as graduate school or career-related work. **All WIP courses count toward requirements for the Writing Certificate Program.**

For more information about the program and its benefits, as well as for a list of current WIP courses, visit: <http://www.wip.uga.edu>.

THE MAJOR AND MINOR IN ENGLISH

The skills in writing and critical thinking that you have learned in First-Year Writing will serve you well if you decide to major or minor in English. English majors learn to read, interpret, and analyze texts (novels, stories, plays, films, poems, essays, images, and other forms of cultural production) and to write with poise, brevity, and elegance. Majors can choose Areas of Emphasis for their Program of Study; areas of emphasis include Creative Writing, American Literature, Multicultural American Literature, Rhetoric and Composition, Humanities Computing, Medieval Literature, Studies in the Novel, Poetics, Advanced Studies in English, Interdisciplinary Renaissance Studies, Eighteenth Century Literature, and English Language Studies. Majors and minors can go on to careers in almost anything: teaching, editing, publishing, law, journalism, management, human resources, business communication, medicine, grant-writing, screen-writing, technical writing, and so on. Employers take an English major or minor as evidence of strong skills in writing, creativity, and critical thinking. You can find more information about the English major and minor at the program website: <http://www.english.uga.edu/undergraduate-studies>.

English majors are eligible for a number of special scholarships and awards. Declared majors can also join the Undergraduate English Association, a student-run organization that informs English majors about career opportunities with an English degree. Contact Jim Kallerman (jkallerm@uga.edu or in Park Hall Room 111) for more information on the UEA. High-achieving students who study English beyond First-year Composition may be eligible to join Sigma Tau Delta, the English honors society, regardless of their major. Please consult the undergraduate pages on the English Department website for more information about these opportunities.

ADVANCED COURSES IN WRITING

The English Department offers several upper-division courses in writing that are open to students in other majors. The Academic Enhancement Program, housed in Milledge Hall, also offers an array of writing classes for native and non-native speakers.

UNIV 1105. IMPROVING GRAMMAR, USAGE, AND STYLE.

- 3 hours.
- Athena Title: IMPROVING GRAMMAR.
- This course teaches students to master formal grammar rules and terminology, to achieve a clear, fluent writing style, and to recognize common problems of usage so that they can effectively write and edit papers for academic and professional audiences. **Note:** Students may enroll in this course simultaneously with ENGL 1101.

UNIV 1115. INTRODUCTION TO ACADEMIC WRITING.

- 3 hours (institutional credit). Athena Title: Academic Writing.
- The objective of the course is to prepare students for the kinds of writing required in English 1101 and other University courses. To meet that objective, UNIV 1115 stresses strategies for generating ideas and improving writing fluency, conventions of academic usage and style, patterns for organizing thought and arranging written material, and critical thinking and analysis. In the classroom and in individualized instruction, students receive extensive practice drafting, editing, and revising expository and persuasive essays.
- **Note:** This course carries institutional credit and will not count toward graduation.

UNIV 1117. BASIC COMPOSITION FOR MULTILINGUAL WRITERS.

- 3 hours (institutional credit).

- Athena Title: MULTILINGUAL COMP.
- This course is designed for both undergraduate and graduate students whose first language is not English. Its objectives include mastering English grammar, idioms, and sentence structure; building an academic vocabulary; and composing short academic papers. The course emphasizes problems that non-native speakers typically experience with proofreading, revision, and writing for an American audience. Assignments may be tailored to students' majors. **Note:** This course carries institutional credit and will not count toward graduation.

ENGL 3590W. TECHNICAL COMMUNICATION.

- 3 hours.
- Athena Title: TECH AND PROF COMM.
- This course deals with writing in the professional domains, with an emphasis on research methods, clear and accurate presentation of ideas and data, and computer-mediated communication. If you want an introduction to the role of writing in the workplace, this course would be for you.

ENGL 3600W. ADVANCED COMPOSITION.

- 3 hours.
- Athena Title: ADV COMPOSITION.
- Advanced Composition focuses less on professional contexts than on writing as a process, with an emphasis on the conventions of discourse situations, invention, revision, editorial skills, and document design. This course is particularly useful for students who want to practice and improve their academic writing.

ENGL 3850S. WRITING AND COMMUNITY.

- 3 hours.
- Athena Title: WRITING AND COMMUNITY
- This course is a study of how writing functions in the formation and maintenance of communities and the role of written communication in addressing community needs and concerns. It will have a service-learning component in addition to being writing intensive, with students creating texts about community issues and for community partners.

ENGL 3860W. SCIENCE WRITING FOR GENERAL AUDIENCES.

- 3 hours.
- Athena Title: SCIENCE WRITING GENERAL AUDIEN.
- Clearly conveying complex scientific information to the public is becoming increasingly important. This course is a writing-intensive introduction to reading and writing about scientific research in order to bring scientific information to the general public. The following courses are reserved for students who have taken any two 2000-level ENGL classes or one 2000-level ENGL class and one 2000-level CMLT class.

ENGL 4830W. ADVANCED STUDIES IN WRITING.

- 3 hours.
- Athena Title: ADV STUDIES WRITING.
- Advanced study of writing as process and product, focusing on particular discourse situations or kinds of texts. Topics might typically be advanced technical communication, academic writing for literary scholars, or text and hypertext.

ENGL 4831W. THE CRITICAL ESSAY.

- 3 hours.
- Athena Title: CRITICAL ESSAY.
- The primary goal of the course will be to initiate students into the academic dialogue practiced by scholars of English. Each student will join this scholarly conversation by producing a research-based, academic paper of 20 to 30 pages in length about some aspect of English Studies to be workshopped in stages throughout the drafting process.

ENGL 4832W. WRITING FOR THE WORLD WIDE WEB.

- 3 hours.
- Athena Title: WRITING FOR THE WEB.
- This class deals with both the theory and practice of digital rhetoric and composition. Here you will learn to use the basic tools to construct a wide variety of digital, multimodal texts for a range of audiences and purposes.

ENGL 4833W. COMPOSITION THEORY AND PEDAGOGY.

- 3 hours.
- Athena Title: COMP PEDAGOGY
- This course introduces you to the history and theories of college composition teaching. With a strong practical emphasis, ENGL 4833 prepares students to work as college writing tutors or as classroom writing assistants.

ENGL 4836W. WRITING ABOUT HEALTH AND MEDICINE.

- 3 hours.
- Athena Title: WRITING ABOUT HEALTH AND MED.
- This writing-intensive English course introduces students to the narrative arts and trains them to identify, construct, and use narrative in fictional and non-fictional writing about health, wellness, medicine, and able-bodiedness.

ENGL 4837W. DIGITAL STORYTELLING.

- 3 hours.
- Athena Title: DIGITAL STORYTELLING.
- An introduction to the study and practice of narrative within digital environments. Students will work independently and collaboratively to analyze and create digital stories. At the end of the semester, students will participate in a Digital Story Showcase to share their work with a public audience.