

Liberal Studies Program

Learning Outcomes and Writing Expectations

FIRST-YEAR WRITING

Approved by the Liberal Studies Council, March 2018

Learning Outcomes:

Taken together, the courses in the First-Year Writing Program at DePaul University seek to develop student competencies in five general categories: rhetorical knowledge; critical thinking, reading and writing; writing processes; and knowledge of conventions. Individual faculty will naturally incorporate these competencies into their courses in different ways, but all faculty in the program should be prepared to demonstrate that their courses include attention to these matters.

Students will be able to:

- Identify and use key rhetorical concepts, including purpose, audience, and context, through analyzing and composing a variety of texts.
- Integrate critical thinking, reading, and writing.
- Reflect on and develop their own writing processes.
- Appropriately apply knowledge of linguistic structures, genre, and citation.

Writing Expectations:

Each section of WRD 103 is expected to meet the following minimum requirements for student work:

1. Amount of Writing: students will write at least four finished papers, each of which will be approximately 750 to 1000 words long.
2. Drafting and Revising: students will submit preliminary drafts of at least two of their papers for the instructor's review and comment, so that some weight in the final grade is given to the student's skill in developing and revising his or her writing.

3. **Basic Standards:** students will not receive a grade of C- or better if their finished work repeatedly fails to conform to certain basic standards (see Part V: Grading).

Each section of WRD 104 is expected to meet the following minimum expectations for student work:

1. **Amount of Writing:** students will write at least twelve to fifteen pages of finished material for the course, including at least one formal documented research paper at least six pages (1500 words) long.
2. **Summarizing and Paraphrasing:** students will learn and practice strategies of summarizing and paraphrasing other texts as part of or in the context of preparing the research paper.
3. **Library Resources:** students will complete an exercise in using the resources and technology of the library.
4. **Drafting and Revising:** students will submit preliminary drafts of at least part of their work for the instructor's review and comment, so that some weight in the final grade is given to the student's skill in developing and revising his or her writing.
5. **Basic Standards:** students will not receive a grade of C- or better if their finished work repeatedly fails to conform to certain basic standards (see Part V: Grading).