

Student Response Report · Fall 2015

"I feel like the assignments have prepared me for the rest of college and my professional life (i.e., very relevant)." "I would not have learned the material as thoroughly without writing." "I've never been more involved in my life." "Before I took this course I always had a hard time speaking in class. However, this class allowed me to build confidence in myself as a writer and speaker." "I feel like a better writer." "I feel more confident in my writing now."

SA = Strongly Agree A = Agree D = Disagree SD = Strongly Disagree

1) My experience in this course strengthened my writing.

"The process of turning in a draft and then a final forced me to think more critically about my writing and how it was being interpreted." "Because the writing was so rigorous and frequent, I felt it helped me improve a lot." "Every time I got back feedback I felt like the strength of my writing improved." "This course has taught me to read and evaluate things in a more critical way. It has taught me to develop arguments/critiques when analyzing works/shows/ads." "I now better understand how to organize my thoughts, write a strong introduction, and write an overall fluid paper." "The constant writing helped me to polish my skills and teach me to write effectively." "It definitely helped my math and science-based writing. I have much more focused and succinct writing."

	SA	A	D	SD
	82	270	72	9
	19%	62%	17%	2%
	SA + A = 81%			
BIOL 1103L/1104L/1107L/1108L	138	359	90	39
	22%	57%	14%	6%
	SA + A = 79%			

2) The writing assignments enhanced my learning of the subject matter of this course.

"I believe the prompts directly took themes from the class and pushed us to not only understand them but use them in their own way." "They required us to think about the material in more/different ways than just what was discussed in class." "The assignments were good at making us apply what we had learned in class to outside resources." "I feel like every paper was important in helping me reflect on the material." "I was pushed to critically analyze the pieces we read, which improved my understanding." "Writing assignments helped me develop my thoughts and put them together in a more coherent and organized manner."

	SA	A	D	SD
	143	252	30	5
	33%	58%	7%	1%
	SA + A = 91%			
BIOL 1103L/1104L/1107L/1108L	171	389	92	46
	24%	56%	13%	7%
	SA + A = 80%			

3) The writing assignments encouraged me to be actively involved in the course.

"Let me process more about the subject so my thoughts were organized." "Required writing made me understand the pieces better and allowed me to participate more." "It forced me to take a hard look at what I had learned so far." "The writing assignments motivated me to stay up to date on class material and activities." "The assignments were helpful in providing the framework for reviewing and processing the homework and coursework." "Pushed me to ask more questions and think more creatively." "The writing assignments helped me think critically and really analyze the topics covered in class."

	SA	A	D	SD
	127	238	60	6
	29%	55%	14%	1%
	SA + A = 84%			
BIOL 1103L/1104L/1107L/1108L	182	403	85	36
	26%	57%	12%	5%
	SA + A = 83%			

Writing Intensive Program

4) The writing assignments helped me to understand the ways of writing that are particular to this subject (for example: the ways of writing in the sciences, the social sciences, or the humanities).

<i>"I learned how to construct an analytical thesis and learned how to support it effectively." "I could definitely understand the differences in social science writing after this." "Each writing assignment was tailored toward a specific audience and prompt, so I learned how to adjust my writing styles." "This class helped me develop my analytical writing skills." "The writing helped me to understand how scholars write on music history." "I really had to focus on using texts and other articles to support my thinking." "I certainly feel that this program helped me to be more comfortable and successful at writing for linguistic analysis."</i>	SA	A	D	SD
	129	226	70	4
	30%	52%	16%	1%
	SA + A = 82%			
	BIOL 1103L/1104L/1107L/1108L			
	210	435	53	31
	29%	60%	7%	4%
	SA + A = 89%			

5) The coaching I received from the teaching assistant was effective.

<i>"The TA was excellent in his comments on my papers and meeting individually with him helped me improve specific writing skills." "The TA was very helpful and available for answering questions. He was also very honest and gave very constructive feedback." "I appreciated the specific and personalized feedback, as it helped me know very clearly what to improve." "The TA's feedback was extremely helpful and has improved my writing process." "I feel like talking about writing was really helpful and thorough." "The feedback that the WIP faculty member provided helped me grow as a writer, and it was always appreciated that he conducted this procedure with constructive criticism."</i>	SA	A	D	SD
	147	226	35	16
	34%	52%	8%	4%
	SA + A = 86%			
	BIOL 1103L/1104L/1107L/1108L			
	286	343	52	54
	39%	47%	7%	7%
	SA + A = 86			

6) The writing I did in this class built on my prior writing experiences, skills, and knowledge.

<i>"It helped me to advance my previous writing skills." "I had all of the tools; I just had to learn how to use them." "It added to my skills and made me more diverse." "It helped me be more comfortable with writing." "I changed many of the methods and thought processes but I still used previously learned skills." "It enhanced the foundation of my writing skills." "I feel like I finally have a piece of work that is important to me and well written."</i>	SA	A	D	SD
	134	245	45	4
	31%	57%	10%	1%
	SA + A = 88%			

7) The writing I did in this class has prepared me for future writing experiences/assignments/work.

<i>"Writing almost every week for this class has prepared me to be successful on future papers." "I better learned how to build an argument and use real life context in my papers." "This will definitely help me in graduate school." "It has been intensive so it has prepared me to handle other difficult writing assignments." "Gave me experience and skill set to do similar assignments in the future." "It seems very relevant to life and potential future assignments." "I feel very confident in my ability to write future arguments." "I am very interested in research now and don't find it as much of a task as I used to but an interest now."</i>	SA	A	D	SD
	115	245	53	13
	27%	57%	12%	3%
	SA + A = 83%			

8) The writing element of this class increased my satisfaction with the overall course.

"I only wish we had more writing assignments." "Yes, the writing element is what improved my skills most in this course." "The writing made this course exciting, and it helped me retain the material in a lasting way." "The writing definitely strengthened the course and brought together a lot of the key concepts of the course, making it a lot easier to comprehend and analyze." "The writing element of this class made me satisfied with the course. I found that writing on this class's topics and discussing and comparing ideas with fellow students afterward was engaging and productive." "Absolutely! The amount and depth of feedback was encouraging and outstanding. Overall, I grew as a writer because of this opportunity."