

Franklin College of Arts and Sciences **Writing Intensive Program**
Student Responses Fall 07

*"Writing papers, although more difficult for me, has been far more engaging than a few examinations."
 "This is not a course where you can listen and regurgitate.
 You have to digest the information and writing enables you to do so."
 "The comments on the drafts encouraged me to rethink my ideas as well as my writing choices."
 "I am really proud of the work and commitment I put into my paper,
 and it really enhanced my learning in the course."*

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

1) My experience in this course strengthened my writing.		SA	A	D	SD
<i>"This course was extremely helpful—especially with drafts. [Receiving] two sets of constructive comments was helpful."</i>		91	229	38	8
<i>"I have a better idea of scholarly expectation." "I finally learned how to <u>really</u> write a bibliography."</i>		25%	62%	10%	2%
				SA + A = 87%	
<i>"Articulating explanations of math problems forces you to try to include only what's necessary." "My writing became more clear because I was forced to explain thoroughly." "I ask myself questions about my own writing now." "Writing formal lab reports and about scientific journal articles helped me to improve my writing for other scientific papers."</i>	BIOL 1103L	14	290	14	23
<i>"I believe I can write a scientific paper with cohesiveness, w/o fluff."</i>		3%	62%	30%	5%
				SA + A = 65%	
	BIOL 1108L	8	145	56	11
		4%	65%	25%	5%
				SA + A = 69%	
2) The writing assignments enhanced my learning of the subject matter of this course.		SA	A	D	SD
<i>"The writing assignments were a great way for me to apply what I'm learning in preparation for my future career."</i>		141	191	28	7
<i>"Much more effective than exams; promoted critical thinking." "Explaining the [mathematical] processes behind the procedures and the 'why' of why they work has helped me grasp the material more firmly than I ever have." "They made me really think through my explanations. Forces you to think deeper and then explain, which reinforces the new material learned."</i>		38%	52%	8%	2%
				SA + A = 90%	
	BIOL 1103L	74	312	65	13
		16%	67%	14%	3%
				SA + A = 83%	
	BIOL 1108L	18	126	69	13
		8%	56%	31%	6%
				SA + A = 64%	

3) The writing assignments encouraged me to be actively involved in the course.		SA	A	D	SD
<i>"The assignments allowed me to express my opinion, when in class, it could be intimidating." "I was able to gain a deeper understanding of the material through the assignments."</i>		117	185	55	11
<i>"I liked how writing was involved—it kept me on my toes & forced me to stay involved in the class." "I enjoyed writing my ideas & reading others, especially because often people opt not to verbally express their thoughts."</i>		32%	50%	15%	3%
				SA + A = 82%	
<i>"Assignments taught me to think more critically about the material." "The writing kept me on top of my work & ensured that I was up to date on the material."</i>	BIOL 1103L	65	302	88	13
<i>"I had to really engage myself in the experiments and follow the procedures, so that I'd be able to remember and understand the subject matter better for writing assignments."</i>		14%	65%	19%	3%
				SA + A = 79%	
	BIOL 1108L	20	123	69	11
		9%	55%	31%	5%
				SA + A = 64%	

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).		SA	A	D	SD
<i>"We actually had different assignments for different ways of writing about art history." "I had to back up all of my ideas with evidence; I was corrected when I made overall generalizations."</i>		131	186	43	5
<i>"I learned how to write within the art profession, [which] is much different from writing for an English class." "I did have to change the way I approached writing when applied to science."</i>		36%	50%	12%	
				SA + A = 86%	
<i>"I wish there were classes with this much writing in the sciences my sophomore and junior years." "I felt like my lab reports became more succinct and to the point, which is what you want in chemistry." "I didn't know there was a difference before this class."</i>	BIOL 1103L	74	284	93	14
		16%	61%	20%	3%
				SA + A = 77%	
	BIOL 1108L	54	144	24	2
		24%	64%	11%	1%
				SA + A = 88%	

5) The coaching I received from the teaching assistant was effective:		SA	A	D	SD
<i>"Courtne did an excellent job in explaining how to strengthen any writing and was always available for extra help." "Courtne met with me several times and thoroughly discussed good & problem areas in my work—even with work from other classes."</i>		172	137	39	16
<i>"Kim always has great & helpful feedback that's specific to me." "Terry was very helpful & was always available when I had a question." "A TA has never been more helpful & informative." "Carrie is awesome. She was a great resource and incredibly knowledgeable, not to mention always available for counseling. She really went above and beyond."</i>		47%	37%	11%	4%
				SA + A = 84%	
<i>"Parker pointed out aspects of the writing that I would not have previously considered."</i>	BIOL 1103L	102	304	46	14
		22%	65%	10%	3%
				SA + A = 87%	
	BIOL 1108L	62	149	11	1
		28%	67%	5%	
				SA + A = 95%	

6) The writing element of this class increased my satisfaction with the overall course:

"I feel like it made this a more complete and mature class."

"At first, I thought 'Oh, no!' but it overall helped me retain what I have learned. Amazing how it worked out." "I appreciate taking time to document in writing my reflections and learning." "I am confident in all my papers and would be proud to let anyone read them. "

"It was rewarding to take a class that was not all about memorizing facts, but actually practicing the life-long skills of writing and speaking well." "I feel that as students admitted to UGA we should be challenged as undergraduates to do more critical thinking and writing. The large lectures do not require this of us, and breakouts and labs should."

	SA	A	D	SD
	84	170	81	29
	23%	46%	22%	8%
			SA + A = 69%	
BIOL 1103L	23	194	184	55
	5%	42%	40%	12%
			SA + A = 47%	
BIOL 1108L	6	69	98	49
	3%	31%	44%	22%
			SA + A = 34%	