

Franklin College of Arts and Sciences **Writing Intensive Program**
Student Responses Fall 2010

"It's one thing to come up with the answer, but it's quite another to have to explain what you did to get it. Several times I had the right answer, but had to really think and understand it to explain it." "The journals challenged me to take what I was reading to a deeper level. The paper made me take all that I was absorbing and apply it to a real-life topic. I loved it." "I felt the feedback and drafting process were super helpful and effective for this class and for my writing in the future." "I felt like I was truly learning how working for a company as a lab technician could be rather than just completing experiments to satisfy a course requirement." "Due to the writing in this class, I now have a professional portfolio for my future!"

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

| | | | | |
|--|------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| 1) My experience in this course strengthened my writing. | SA | A | D | SD |
| <i>"I've never had this much feedback on my writing before this class." "It revealed things I had trouble with when writing a paper, so I am able to identify mistakes not only on this paper but other papers for other classes." "The length of these papers forced me to not only be precise in my explanations but also to make sure the argument was cohesive and to the point." "I'm still not confident in my writing, but [my TA's] feedback and encouragement were very helpful in the development and execution of my ideas." "I was able to better evaluate my own work with the help of post labs and lab reports." "I plan on modeling future papers after papers I wrote well." "I had to write in a genre that I am not used to, which improved my writing."</i> | 88 24% | 219 59% | 52 14% | 10 3% |
| | SA + A = 83% | | | |
| | BIOL 1103L/110L7/1108L | | | |
| | 113 14% | 463 59% | 167 21% | 41 6% |
| | SA + A = 73% | | | |
| 2) The writing assignments enhanced my learning of the subject matter of this course. | SA | A | D | SD |
| <i>If it weren't for the writing assignments, "I would have just completed the lab to say that I had completed the lab, even if I might not have known what it was that I was doing." "I had to read more than just the [text] to write the paper. I had to do research." "I feel most confident of my depth of understanding of music history on the topics we've had to write about." "Having to write on the books under discussion helped me to explore & understand their meanings." "I learned how Latin is used to accentuate feeling in a sentence." "Putting my understandings into my own words challenged me to fully and thoroughly understand the subject." "Writing about various works of art and artists encouraged me to do research to broaden my knowledge of art history."</i> | 133 36% | 195 52% | 36 10% | 7 2% |
| | SA + A = 88% | | | |
| | BIOL 1103L/1107L/1108L | | | |
| | 136 16% | 538 64% | 134 16% | 36 4% |
| | SA + A = 80% | | | |
| 3) The writing assignments encouraged me to be actively involved in the course. | SA | A | D | SD |
| <i>"Before writing the results and conclusions, my lab group members would often get together to talk about the lab and what was done, and it helped to be actively involved in the lab." "Yes, because I had to work with other students and the WIP TA to figure things out." "Preparation prior to the class helped me feel ready for discussion that might take place." "Made me think more about & understand the reading, and made me feel better about my</i> | 111 30% | 174 47% | 78 21% | 8 2% |
| | SA + A = 77% | | | |
| | BIOL 1103L/1107L/1108L | | | |
| | 162 | 521 | 137 | 45 |

grade for being a quiet student who expresses herself better in writing than out loud." "The writing assignments forced me to take the course readings seriously and to stay on track with them."

19% 60% 16% 5%
SA + A = 79%

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). "It wouldn't matter if someone cured cancer, if they were unable to explain why and how in a clear and repeatable methodology." "I could now pick up a science lab report and understand the background work in preparing it. I am even encouraged to actively read lab reports in the future because

SA A D SD
119 194 49 5
32% 53% 13% 2%

SA + A = 85%

BIOL 1103L/1107L/1108L
205 545 93

27
of the writing assignments in this lab." I now "understand citations, research methods, and vocabulary of art education." "Expectations for these three papers was most helpful in understanding what classicists write like—and that is not like how English majors write." "Learning how to write APA format was new to me, but the help from [the WIP TA] made it easier."

23% 63% 11% 3%

SA + A = 86%

5) The coaching I received from the teaching assistant was effective: "She was very helpful: provided packets of helpful tips and met with us one on one." "The advice I received from the TA was awesome. He was very helpful in re-thinking the organization of the final paper." "She was very dedicated to getting as much info as possible to us." "It was great to be able to sit down and have one on one meetings about our writing." "She went out of her way to make sure we knew how to improve our writing and tailored her time and assistance to be effective for us individually." She was "very relatable—it was not intimidating meeting with [her], and she gave great constructive criticism."

SA A D SD
131 155 59 17
36% 43% 16% 5%

SA + A = 79%

BIOL 1103L/1107L/1108L
258 463 87 52
30% 54% 10% 6%

SA + A = 84%

6) The writing element of this class increased my satisfaction with the overall course: "Of course, writing = more work, but I do think it helps one understand this material more." "It created an environment to take the material more seriously." "I would not have learned as much without the writing component—I pushed myself harder & got more out of the course." "It was one of the few classes I've had that wasn't a regurgitation of redundant material." "I feel much more confident presenting to our client with the practice these assignments gave us." "Yes! Because I know I will have to do this in the real world, and I can use this paper as a part of my portfolio." "I felt like I got more out of the course because of the writing than any other lit course I have had."

SA A D SD
85 169 81 32
23% 46% 22% 9%

SA + A = 69%

BIOL 1103L/1107L/1108L
66 243 260 151
9% 34% 36% 21%

SA + A = 43%

