

Franklin College of Arts and Sciences **Writing Intensive Program**
Student Responses Spring 2013

"I felt like I made the biggest leaps in understanding on my own because of the WIP." "This was the first time I've taken a WIP course and felt the writing assignments actually challenged me to understand the material very well and almost every day." "The writing assignments, namely the research article, definitely forced me to gain a more complete understanding of the scientific process and the details of my group's experiment than I would have had without completing those assignments. Without those assignments, I would have coasted on as little information as possible." "I am finally starting to understand that my writing needs to look different depending on which subject I am writing for."

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

	SA	A	D	SD
1) My experience in this course strengthened my writing. <i>"It made me think more abstractly and at the bigger picture."</i>	83	160	30	1
<i>"The use of outside sources allowed me to explore more about this subject matter not taught in class." "It helped me determine what content should be elaborated on for music history papers." "Having to substantiate my claims w/o redundancy, I improved my argumentation skills."</i>	30%	58%	11%	
	SA + A = 88%			
<i>"I was able to hone my skills in analytical writing." "Strengthened critical thinking and my ability to synthesize large, coherent conclusions from varied sources." "We did a lot of writing that took organizational skills of not only the mind but also structure of writing." "I had the opportunity to learn how to be more concise in my writing, making it more powerful." "Although I did not particularly enjoy writing every week, I do feel like it strengthened my scientific writing skills."</i>	BIOL 1103L/1104L/1107L/1108L 173	610	110	31
	19%	66%	12%	
	SA + A = 85%			
2) The writing assignments enhanced my learning of the subject matter of this course. <i>"By having to incorporate the work of the entire semester into one, cohesive essay, I was able to really understand the work." "It made the course seem more relevant and 'human.'" "It takes so much more to write these homeworks than to memorize some facts and spit them out on a test." "When I went to write it up, I'd realize exactly what parts I really didn't understand."</i>	128	134	15	0
	46%	48%	5%	
	SA + A = 94%			
<i>"Peer reviews are the most useful." "It forced us to reflect & think deeper about things we were learning." "Having to synthesize all of this really difficult theory into my own writing helped me get a handle on the material." "They forced you to gradually absorb data and practice the use of the sociological imagination."</i>	BIOL 1103L/1104L/1107L/1108L 195	678	82	42
	20%	68%	8%	
	SA + A = 88%			
3) The writing assignments encouraged me to be actively involved in the course. <i>"The writing helped me to more coherently understand material, therefore encouraging my confidence to talk in class." "They're [worth] over ½ the grade, so yes . . . I was very active." "I knew that I had to completely understand the labs in order to write about them, so I was more motivated to pay attention and do really well on the lab assignments." "The writing assignments gave me ideas and time to develop perspectives on the areas that we were focusing on, making it easier for me to participate and speak out in lab."</i>	87	156	30	3
	32%	56%	10%	
	SA + A = 88%			
<i>"Reflecting on readings through writing encourages active involvement."</i>	BIOL 1103L/1104L/1107L/1108L 229	631	104	41
	23%	63%	10%	
	SA + A = 86%			

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). *"These writing assignments helped me develop a better understanding of scientific writing. We learned how to determine credible sources, such as scholarly journals, and how to integrate them into our papers." "The style of science is different than most literature. This helped me practice." "It is nice to have practice, since there are not many writing assignments in other classes."*

SA	A	D	SD
117	142	16	1
42%	51%	6%	

SA + A = 93%

BIOL 1103L/1104L/1107L/1108L			
267	656	67	34
26%	64%	6%	

SA + A = 90%

5) The coaching I received from the teaching assistant was effective: *"Erin is incredibly helpful and gives excellent constructive criticism." "Mr. Arthur was an excellent TA. He provided lots of guidance for the whole class when it came to the writing and labs. No one was ever lost or confused because he was always willing to help. Best TA I have ever had at Georgia because he truly cared about the success of the students in the class." "Liz was always there to help, explain, and go over any work that was unclear and point out any mistakes or alternatives. She did this without pushing or enforcing her own style of writing or way of thinking." "Very helpful! Always scaffolded ideas that were developing."*

SA	A	D	SD
108	125	35	4
40%	46%	13%	

SA + A = 86%

BIOL 1103L/1104L/1107L/1108L			
369	553	57	52
36%	53%	5%	5%

SA + A = 89%

6) The writing element of this class increased my satisfaction with the overall course: *"I liked the interactiveness of it!" "Yes. I put more effort into this class than all of my others. I was far more invested in doing well when my writing and arguments were the focus." "It made me think and examine the material more deeply." "I enjoy writing about this subject and learning how it can help me in my future endeavors." "Better than tests, that's for sure." "This is the best chemistry course I've taken. If the writing hadn't been in this course, I would not have enjoyed it." "If I need writing samples for jobs or grad school, I will pull them from my work in this class."*

SA	A	D	SD
75	126	58	12
28%	46%	21%	

SA + A = 74%

BIOL 1103L/1104L/1107L/1108L			
128	318	245	92
16%	41%	31%	12%

SA + A = 57%