

Franklin College of Arts and Sciences Writing Intensive Program
Student Responses Fall 06

*"[This course] helped me to write the best I could—it challenged me to re-write and to re-think"
"I had to spend a good deal of time formulating reasonable essays
that properly exhibited the information I had learned in lab,
leading to a deeper level of understanding upon further analysis/reflection."*

1) Did your experience in this course strengthen your writing in any way:	Y	N	DNR
<i>"Yes. Most of my classes don't require the amount of writing this one did, and I felt that my writing skills had been diminishing." "I haven't had to write a research paper since 10th grade, so it helped a lot to do the research paper and have assistance throughout the whole way." "Yes. I still think I'm a poor writer, but my confidence is improving in baby steps." "I am much more confident in my writing skills for science-related and argument-based writing"</i>	317 84%	54 14%	6
BIOL 3500	87 51%	78 46%	5
BIOL 1103L	144 51%	136 48%	1
BIOL 1108L	130 55%	104 44%	4
2) Did the writing assignments stimulate your critical thinking, self-reflection, and/or learning?	Y	N	DNR
<i>"[The writing assignments] helped me to articulate my thoughts and not just copy research but to synthesize information and engage in critical thinking." "The assignment allowed us to choose our topics and explore issues that were interesting to us—by doing this, I felt more willing to research and discover more about what I was doing." "I feel like I have experienced a much broader field of music than I have before—and writing about it helped me to really think over and analyze it."</i>	351 93%	23 6%	3
BIOL 3500	87 51%	78 46%	5
BIOL 1103L	204 73%	76 27%	1
BIOL 1108L	158 66%	77 32%	3
3) Did the writing assignments prepare you for further writing in other classes, in your major, in graduate school, or in your career?	Y	N	DNR
<i>"These assignments were all so critical to my career. The depth in which we were asked to write as well as the clarity [demanded to] explain our ideas will be extremely applicable to the writing involved in teaching." I plan to attend grad school in a chemistry-related field, and this will help my confidence when submitting writing, as I will know they are in the right context." "Constant writing assignments helped in getting over the dread or fear of writing."</i>	319 85%	54 14%	4
BIOL 3500	80 47%	83 49%	7
BIOL 1103L	124 44%	154 55%	3
BIOL 1108L	150 63%	86 36%	2

4) Was the coaching on writing you received from your teaching assistant effective?

"In other courses, we get little to no feedback on our writing-- what was good, what we needed to explain better--[in] this course, we got feedback." "Comments were very clear, and Rebecca was always very positive and encouraging. She made time to meet with us and had outlines of what to work on. I could tell she had spent a lot of time thinking about what we were doing, and it made a difference." "When guiding me through the paper, she didn't just tell me what to do, she got me [to] think about it and come up with my own ideas."

	Y	N	DNR
	301	38	38
	80%	10%	10%
BIOL 3500	137 81%	29 17%	4
BIOL 1103L	219 78%	57 20%	5
BIOL 1108L	204 86%	30 13%	4

5) Did you enjoy this course?

"It was challenging, but I feel as though my scientific writing skills have grown."
"[I benefited from] actually having a writing coach instead of just going it alone." "[I benefited from] doing multiple drafts and getting feedback after each one."
"[I benefited from] instructor's close involvement and clear interest in my progress during the writing assignment."

	Y	N	DNR
	315	44	18
	84%	12%	4%
BIOL 3500	87 51%	77 45%	6
BIOL 1103L	126 45%	147 52%	8
BIOL 1108L	140 59%	92 39%	6