

Franklin College of Arts and Sciences **Writing Intensive Program**  
**Student Responses Spring 2014**

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*"Despite the extra work the writing entailed, I did understand each lab better when I was forced to write about the whole picture and piece everything together." "The feedback provided from my [WIP TA] were very helpful in helping me improve my writing. After reading his comments, I felt more confident about my work and knew ways in which I could improve my writing. In addition, his comments were always constructive and expressed in a positive manner." "It taught me how to properly write a scientific paper. In my first paper for the class, I followed the guidelines I learned in my English classes (quoting, in-text citations, and other MLA format stuff). But I eventually learned the keys to writing a scientific article, so my next paper was much easier to write and was written in a manner more appropriate for the course."*

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

**1) My experience in this course strengthened**

**my writing.** *"Writing papers in stages helped strengthen my final drafts because it gave me time to actually write for quality." "The consistent assignments helped me sustain progress." "I had never written a formal biology lab report before, so everything was new to me. I learned the proper way to write a lab report. I did not know that the verb tense held a significance in the report. [My TA] was great in helping me to correct my mistakes and to strengthen my writing skills." "I had no idea how to write a research paper prior to this course, and if it hadn't been writing intensive, I still wouldn't know how." "I am going to use the writing process techniques for future courses." "I had to articulate ideas that were difficult to explain, which broadened my skills."*

SA	A	D	SD
89	204	33	2
<b>27%</b>	<b>62%</b>	<b>10%</b>	

**SA + A = 89%**

BIOL 1103L/1104L/1107L/1108L			
173	549	104	37
<b>20%</b>	<b>64%</b>	<b>12%</b>	

**SA + A = 84%**

**2) The writing assignments enhanced my learning**

**of the subject matter of this course.** *"It made me sit down and think about what we had done in class and what I had learned from it. I had to think about the steps and the conclusions and what that meant, even after the experiment was done. I believe it gave me a deeper understanding of what I did in class." "I was lost most of the lab until I started to write the papers. Then, I was able to understand and even helped other people with their papers." "Writing everything out let me determine whether I truly understood the material or not." "All assignments helped me fully flesh out ideas giving me a better understanding of the main concepts." "I did more research when I had to do written assignments. The more research I did, the more I learned."*

SA	A	D	SD
141	171	14	1
<b>43%</b>	<b>52%</b>	<b>4%</b>	

**SA + A = 95%**

BIOL 1103L/1104L/1107L/1108L			
181	614	98	34
<b>20%</b>	<b>66%</b>	<b>11%</b>	

**SA + A = 86%**

**3) The writing assignments encouraged me to be**

**actively involved in the course.** *"In order to write and explain ideas properly, one needs to know what they are trying to write about or explain. Therefore, knowing I would need to do a writing assignment of some sort prompted me to better understand the lab and what I was doing." "The assignments demanded time outside the classroom, and through spending time analyzing certain problems, my curiosity was piqued for the course." "For the first time I'd say EVER, I really put forth effort in every part of the writing process." "Daily writing assignments allowed me to learn effectively because it forced me to write down ideas and make them concrete." "The assignments helped me to actively work on my paper over time instead of just the night before it was due."*

SA	A	D	SD
118	166	37	5
<b>36%</b>	<b>51%</b>	<b>11%</b>	

**SA + A = 87%**

BIOL 1103L/1104L/1107L/1108L			
209	602	101	41
<b>22%</b>	<b>63%</b>	<b>11%</b>	

**SA + A = 85%**

**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).** *"Writing assignments for science are different than other writing assignments because of all the experimental data and procedures that need to be included. The assignments helped give me practice for this type of writing." "I realize that not as much elaborate diction is needed for courses like these. As long as the information is presented in a clear fashion, the the writing is successful." "This semester, I learned much more about researching and citation, and that was by far the most helpful part of the course."*

SA	A	D	SD
140	153	33	2
<b>43%</b>	<b>47%</b>	<b>10%</b>	

**SA + A = 90%**

BIOL 1103L/1104L/1107L/1108L			
267	607	72	32
<b>27%</b>	<b>62%</b>	<b>7%</b>	

**SA + A = 89%**

**5) The coaching I received from the teaching assistant was effective:** *"He helped us understand how we should be writing for our assignments and how it was different from writing in other classes." "He was very helpful! He gave us clear instructions and examples of how to cite our sources. Any suggestions that he made were insightful and genuinely improved the quality of my writing." "I found the meetings to be very helpful as they helped explore ideas I never would have considered otherwise." "The teaching assistant was incredible! Very reachable, informative, knowledgeable, responsive." "The TA was always helpful with his comments, and he would make time to meet with his students." "Excellent comments. She really cared."*

SA	A	D	SD
138	146	30	10
<b>42%</b>	<b>45%</b>	<b>9%</b>	

**SA + A = 87%**

BIOL 1103L/1104L/1107L/1108L			
359	505	74	40
<b>37%</b>	<b>51%</b>	<b>8%</b>	<b>4%</b>

**SA + A = 88%**

**6) The writing element of this class increased my satisfaction with the overall course:** *"It encouraged me to go beyond absorbing the information talked about during lectures and read different materials to increase my knowledge of photography." "The layout of the writing assignments and timing made me enjoy the content of the course more, as I didn't have to stress over exams in class." "I feel that the writing skills will help me more in the future than the standardized test would have." "I don't think I would have as great of an understanding of the material without the writing." "The writing helped me to comprehend the significance of the labs, which allowed me to perform more confidently in the course."*

SA	A	D	SD
97	161	55	13
<b>30%</b>	<b>49%</b>	<b>17%</b>	

**SA + A = 79%**

BIOL 1103L/1104L/1107L/1108L			
102	283	239	120
<b>14%</b>	<b>38%</b>	<b>32%</b>	<b>16%</b>

**SA + A = 52%**