

Student Response Report · Spring 2025

"I feel as if my writing improved dramatically over the semester thanks to this course."

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

1) My experience in this course strengthened my writing.

<i>"I learned a lot about academic writing and how I can incorporate data into my papers."</i>	SA	A	D	SD
<i>"Thinking about writing in such a focused, thoughtful way was enlightening." "The paper we wrote at the end of class was particularly helpful. I learned to express my own opinions, experiences, and thoughts better when writing this piece." "I learned how to incorporate articles into my writing and develop my own opinions into that as well. I feel like a stronger writer." "[The teacher] gives amazing feedback." "It provided me with more practice in writing." "I am used to writing English essays or research papers so this new type of writing has taught me a lot about my word usage and elaboration's importance of elaboration." "There was a good amount of self-based writing and critical thinking that I think strengthened my writing."</i>	144 39%	202 54%	26 7%	1 0%
	SA + A = 93%			
	BIOL 1103L/1104L/1107L/1108L			
	224 39%	293 52%	30 5%	21 4%
	SA + A = 91%			

2) The writing assignments enhanced my learning of the subject matter of this course.

<i>"The assignments made me apply myself more than most classes do, which made my understanding of the subject matter stronger." "The assignments made me think outside of the box and explore possible answers or problems." "I had to explain in prose each element in the homework, furthering my understanding of the material." "The act of writing gave me the ability to study up on the concepts taught in addition to drawing connections within the material." "When writing, we had to reread previous articles to better remember/gain better understanding from them, and it allowed us to explore concepts more in-depth." "With the writing assignments, I was able to fully develop the ideas we discussed in class from my own perspective." "Encouraged us to really think critically about the material." "Definitely helped me apply my own thinking to things I was otherwise just reading or being told." "Doing research to find a topic and exploring a specific topic depth was very educational."</i>	SA	A	D	SD
	192 51%	158 42%	23 6%	1 1%
	SA + A = 93%			
	BIOL 1103L/1104L/1107L/1108L			
	237 41%	276 48%	39 7%	20 4%
	SA + A = 89%			

3) The writing assignments encouraged me to be actively involved in the course.

<i>"The writing required in depth analysis of the content of the course." "We had assignments every week that actively worked to keep us engaged with course content." "The writing assignments made outside-of-class work engaging." "I had to be involved in order to improve my understanding, get feedback, and collaborate with others." "The peer review was very helpful as well as allowing us to engage with other students." "The essays are challenging, so I always needed to pay attention. The discussions were very helpful." "Active involvement was basically required to write well." "The discussions were engaging along with the content and writing assignments were in direct ties to that." "It increased my knowledge in specific areas of the course, making me curious." "The writing assignments gave me the opportunity to practice writing in the humanities/arts."</i>	SA	A	D	SD
	192 51%	144 39%	34 9%	3 1%
	SA + A = 90%			
	BIOL 1103L/1104L/1107L/1108L			
	273 41%	268 48%	28 7%	21 4%
	SA + A = 89%			

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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).

"This course introduced me to professional writing in linguistics." "Absolutely helped me understand how to write in linguistics." "I was able to understand how sociologists incorporate theories and ideas to their writing."

SA	A	D	SD
178	163	29	2
48%	44%	8%	1%

SA + A = 92%

BIOL 1103L/1104L/1107L/1108L

273	274	18	13
47%	47%	3%	2%

SA + A = 94%

5) The coaching I received from the teaching assistant was effective.

"I very much liked weekly feedback as it improved the final product of our project." "[The TA] gave me some of the best, most useful feedback I have received on this chapter, full stop." "Enlightening and constructive feedback that helped push my writing ability." "She was very helpful in helping me see the gaps in my writing and thought processes." "The feedback on my writing made me a better scientific writer." "[The TA] provided good feedback and encouraged my growth as a writer." "Always offered help in/outside of class. Very kind and easy to ask questions." "The coaching we got back from [the TA] was so helpful when writing the next essays." "Having a person to discuss my essay with was beneficial! It helped me understand how others perceived the points I tried to convey."

SA	A	D	SD
194	152	20	1
52%	41%	5%	1%

SA + A = 93%

BIOL 1103L/1104L/1107L/1108L

302	208	35	31
52%	36%	6%	5%

SA + A = 88%

6) The writing I did in this class built on my prior writing experiences, skills, and knowledge.

"This class definitely took my writing skills to the next level." "It helped me write in a different way than I'm used to, especially in long format essay assignments." "This class built upon our labs but with a greater intensity and focus on critique which helped me to improve." "I think I became a better writer after taking this class and improved greatly."

SA	A	D	SD
200	159	14	1
53%	43%	4%	1%

SA + A = 96%

7) The writing I did in this class has prepared me for future writing experiences/assignments/work.

"I believe I will use writing skills from this class in my career." "I believe I can encounter new challenges and be able to understand and write about them more thoroughly." "Helped me feel more confident about my abilities in a supportive environment." "I feel better prepared for future writing experiences."

SA	A	D	SD
199	148	22	5
53%	40%	6%	1%

SA + A = 93%

8) The writing element of this class increased my satisfaction with the overall course.

"I think I enjoyed the writing aspect because it was my work, my findings, etc. and writing about it made me feel proud." "I enjoyed seeing my group's and my writing improve over the course of the semester." "While I found some parts challenging, it was thanks to these challenges I was able to improve my writing and further understand the subject matter." "I believe [writing] did increase my satisfaction in this course because I learned a lot more by having to actually write about what I did. It forced me to actually learn and think through my work." "Yes, it increased my satisfaction with the course. It created a larger sense of community as well as applying concepts of the course to outside of the class." "The writing has both challenged me while helping me to learn the concepts mentioned. It has also tested my knowledge of course material." "The writing element of this class really increased my understanding of the subject matter as I had to synthesize and consolidate a lot of information." "Without the writing element of this course, it would feel tedious and fruitless. I feel as though the writing aspect helped solidify ideas and force intimacy with the subject matter." "The writing element solidified the information and material in this course by helping me understand it better. It also made the course more enjoyable because we were able to expand our thought process through writing." "The writing truly engaged me to think on a deeper level."