

DEPAUL UNIVERSITY



Learning Outcomes for First Year Writing Requirement

Category: Academic Affairs - Faculty Council

Responsible Department: Academic Affairs

Responsible Officer: Provost

Effective Date: 6/20/2008

Policy Summary

This policy lays out the knowledge and skills that should be gained through the First-Year (FYW) Writing requirement.

Scope

This policy affects the following groups of the University:

- Full-Time Staff
- Part-Time Staff
- Full-Time Faculty
- Part-Time Faculty
- Students

This policy affects all faculty and students, as well as staff working in schools, colleges, and Academic Affairs departments.

Policy

This policy lays out the knowledge and skills that should be gained through the First-Year (FYW) Writing requirement.

Rhetorical Knowledge

By the end of FYW, students should be able to demonstrate that they can:

- a. Define and focus on a purpose or purposes
- b. Understand and respond to different audiences
- c. Respond appropriately to different kinds of rhetorical situations
- d. Use conventions of format and structure appropriate to the rhetorical situation
- e. Adopt appropriate tone, diction, and level of formality
- f. Understand how genres shape reading and writing

- g. Write in several genres

Critical Thinking, Reading and Writing

By the end of FYW, students should be able to demonstrate that they can:

- a. Use writing and reading for inquiry, thinking, and communicating
- b. Respond and evaluate texts in multiple genres and media
- c. Understand a writing assignment as a series of tasks, including finding, analyzing, and synthesizing appropriate primary and secondary sources
- d. Integrate their own ideas with those of others
- e. Understand the relationships among language, knowledge, and power

Processes

By the end of FYW, students should to demonstrate that they can:

- a. See the value of using multiple drafts to create and complete a successful text
- b. Develop flexible strategies for generating, revising, editing, and proof-reading
- c. Understand writing as an open process that permits writers to use later invention and rethinkingto revise their work
- d. Understand the collaborative and social aspects of writing processes
- e. Critique their own and others' works
- f. Use a variety of technologies to address a range of audiences.

Knowledge of Conventions

By the end of FYW, students should be able to demonstrate that they can:

- a. Use common formats for different kinds of texts
- b. Use a variety of genre conventions ranging from structure and paragraphing to tone and mechanics
- c. mechanics
- d. Correctly document their work

Control such surface features as syntax, grammar, punctuation, and spelling.

Procedures

None.

Divisional Collaborations

Liberal Studies Program

Faculty Council

Committee on Academic Policy

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Appendices

None.

History/Revisions

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