Standards for Written Work

The College requires satisfactory standards of correctness in all written work. Students are encouraged to take writing-intensive courses, which are offered by most departments and programs of the College. Writing-intensive courses include any so designated by the Committee on Academic Policy. The description of each course indicates whether it is writing-intensive.

The Writing Program requires that every student pass at least three writing-intensive courses, each taken in a different semester. One must be taken during the first year of study and a second completed by the end of the second year. At least one course must be outside the student’s area of concentration. This requirement should be completed by the end of the junior year.

Writing-intensive courses in mathematics or courses in which assignments are written in a language other than English may total no more than one of the three required courses. Students should earn all three of the required writing-intensive credits by completing courses designated by the Committee on Academic Policy as writing-intensive. In exceptional circumstances, the Committee on Academic Standing will allow a student to earn no more than one writing-intensive credit by completing a suitably constructed independent study.

The College offers peer-tutoring in writing at the Nesbitt-Johnston Writing Center. Many courses require first-draft writing conferences; writing conferences are also available on request. Many students take advantage of peer review of their drafts.

Students who experience difficulties with the writing components of a particular course are encouraged to seek such assistance and to consult with their instructors and advisors. They may also consult with the director of the Writing Center about other services available to them.