



Oregon State University Writing Intensive Curriculum

College of Engineering ~ Writing Profile

College of Engineering WIC classes require an average of 6,750 words (27 pages) of writing per student, including drafts, final papers, and informal assignments. Requirements for individual courses range from 6,000 to 7,000 words.

Informal Writing Assignments & Process Work

- ◆ Directed freewrites to generate class discussion
- ◆ Lab observations and notebooks
“Students are required to keep laboratory notebooks every day that they are in class. This is a professional skill needed by all scientists and engineers. It is the way students record what they are learning.” (CHE 414)
- ◆ Self-assessment narratives
“Bi-weekly project correspondence is used to communicate project status and individual needs among team members and to faculty.” (IE 497/498)

Feedback to Students on their Writing

- ◆ Instructor’s written response (with or without a grade)
- ◆ Conferences with instructor
- ◆ Peer review (in groups or with partners), review sheets
- ◆ Circulated drafts
- ◆ Writing Center consultations

WIC classes Reviewed by the Baccalaureate Core Committee

CHE 414
Chemical
Engineering Lab

CS 361
Fundamentals
of Software
Engineering

IE 497-498
Industrial
Engineering
Analysis
and Design

ME 418/419
Mechanical
Engineering
Capstone Design
Sequence

Formal Writing Assignments

- ◆ Product prototype
- ◆ Business plan
- ◆ Safety report
- ◆ Technical report
- ◆ Funding report
- ◆ Funding proposal
- ◆ Project proposal
“The purpose of the team proposal is consensus building toward what the team thinks it is supposed to accomplish during the term.” (IE 497/498)
- ◆ Project notebook
- ◆ User manual
“The purpose of this manual is to explain the features of this program and how to use them to prospective end-users of the system. The manual should focus on what users see and what they do rather than the internal details of how the program works.” (IE 497/498)

Writing as a Process

- ◆ Online Departmental Writing Guide (IE 497/498)
- ◆ Revision/multiple revision of drafts