



Oregon State University Writing Intensive Curriculum

College of Liberal Arts: Social Science ~ Writing Profile

CLA Social Science WIC classes require an average of 8,525 words (34 pages) of writing per student, including drafts, final papers, and informal assignments. Requirements for individual courses range from 5,000 to 16,000 words.

Informal Writing Assignments

- ◆ Freewrites to generate class discussion topics ... an 'x-ray' of any persistent writing problems a student might have" (PS 459)
- ◆ Daily responses to homework or reading (directed freewrites)
- ◆ Lab observations
- ◆ Observation log
- ◆ E-mail correspondence with peers/professor
- ◆ Journal
- ◆ Vita
- ◆ Self-monitoring exercise
"... an assessment technique often employed by clinical psychologists in research and/or in practice" (PSY 480)
- ◆ Conversation starter
- ◆ Impromptu in-class writing: diagnostic, raise a question, respond to lecture

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
- ◆ Drafts read aloud to class
- ◆ E-mail response to drafts
- ◆ Writing-Editing teams
- ◆ Writing Center consultations

WIC classes Reviewed by the Baccalaureate Core Committee

ANTH 370
Family, Gender, Generation

PS 419
Topics in American Politics

PS 429
Topics in Judicial Politics

PS 459
Topics in International
Relations

PSY 434
Brain and Behavior Methods

PSY 440
Cognition Research

PSY 470
Psychometrics and
Psychological Testing

PSY 480
Case Study Methods

SOC 315
Methods I:

Formal Writing Assignments

- ◆ Microthemes (short narrative responses to directed questions)
- ◆ Literature review
- ◆ Research paper/project/report
- ◆ Proposal for paper/research
- ◆ Publishable scholarly article
- ◆ Cumulative project (proposal, lit. review, drafts, final)
- ◆ Op-Ed article
Editorial "on a complex and often hotly disputed issue within the confines set by most newspapers . . . comprehensible, informative, authoritative, and persuasive . . . could be published, in the student's hometown." (PS 459)
- ◆ Annotated bibliography
- ◆ Book review or analysis
- ◆ Public opinion survey paper
- ◆ Political analysis
- ◆ Think Piece

Writing as a Process

- ◆ Departmental Writing Guide (SOC)
- ◆ Online Departmental Writing Guide (ANTH, PS)
- ◆ Published articles as models
- ◆ Professor writes with class as model
- ◆ Revision/multiple revision of drafts