

Writing Intensive Courses

The following courses will offer Writing Intensive sections during the **FALL 2025** semester:

*The asterisk and bolded class indicates that the course may also be offered without a Writing Intensive designation, so please make sure to choose a "W" section when registering if you wish to meet a Writing Intensive requirement. *CUNYfirst Data Retrieved on 04-09-25*. For the most updated list of FA'25 Writing Intensive courses, please visit: <https://apps.qc.cuny.edu/courseinfo/>

ACCT	362W*	CMLIT	215W*	ENGL	161W*	FNES	307W	MEDST	326W*	PSCI	381W
AFST	234W	CMLIT	220W	ENGL	162W*	FREN	41W*	MEDST	341W*	PSCI	382W
AFST	300W	CMLIT	334W	ENGL	165W	GERM	41W	MEDST	342W*	PSCI	383W
ANTH	246W	CMLIT	382W	ENGL	170W	GRKMD	41W*	MEDST	343W	PSCI	384W
ANTH	361W	DANCE	350W	ENGL	200W	HEBRW	350W	MEDST	344W	PSYCH	213W
ARTH	254W	DATA	212W	ENGL	201W	HIST	102W*	MEDST	362W*	RUSS	155W
BALA	103W	EAST	130W*	ENGL	202W	HIST	392W	MEDST	381W*	SEYS	201W
BALA	201W	ECON	228W*	ENGL	210W	ITAL	41W	MUSIC	269W	SOC	381W*
BIOL	345W	EECE	201W	ENGL	211W	JOURN	101W	MUSIC	301W	SPAN	53W
BUS	160W	EECE	310W	ENGL	301W	LABST	101W*	PHIL	104H	URBST	239W
BUS	341W	ENGL	110H	ENGL	368W	LCD	206W*	PHIL	270W	URBST	265W
CHEM	395W	ENGL	151W*	ENGL	391W	LCD	244W	PHIL	383W	URBST	330W
CMLIT	101H	ENGL	152W*	ENGL	399W	MATH	114W*	PHYS	320W	WGS	101W
CMLIT	101W*	ENGL	153W*	ENSCI	373W	MEDST	201W	PHYS	395W	WGS	201W
CMLIT	102W*	ENGL	157W*	FNES	161W*	MEDST	223W	PHYS	396W		

What is a "W" Course?

Courses are designated W ("Writing Intensive") by the Academic Senate on the recommendation of the Undergraduate Curriculum Committee (UCC) and its Writing Intensive Subcommittee (WISC). To be considered for the W designation, a course must meet the following four criteria:

1. 10-15 pages of evaluated writing in three or more assignments (either separate papers or one term paper done in stages) so that students have the opportunity to develop and improve.
2. Some attention to writing in class in one or more of the following possible forms: discussion of papers before they are written and after they are returned; reading aloud of successful papers or models; discussion of the rhetorical strategies or writer qualities of course readings; the use of informal, ungraded writing to stimulate class discussion; peer editing: opportunities for students to give each other feedback on first drafts; discussion of goals for student writing and evaluation criteria.
3. Exams [if given] that include essay questions.
4. Maximum class-size of 30 students.

How will I recognize W courses?

1. Courses that have a number + a "W" (eg. AFST 234W = the Writing Intensive version of "Black Women Writers.")
2. Writing tutorials that are linked to content area courses; for example, 151 Great Works of English Literature co-linked with English 134W, which is a Writing Tutorial. Student would need to register for and take both together.

Why should I take W courses?

- W courses are required.
- In order to be eligible for graduation, all students must fulfill the College's writing requirement. To fulfill the writing requirement, all students who entered the college between **Fall 1997 and Spring 2013 semester must accrue 3 W units**, and **all matriculants as of Fall 2013 semester must accrue 2 W units**. Students may be able to transfer up to two "W" units from their previous institution/s; however, one (1) W unit must be completed in residency at Queens College for ALL students (freshmen and transfers) regardless of matriculation date.
- Writing about a subject area helps you learn.
- Writing forces you to think more deeply about a certain topic. When you write, you organize your ideas. And by writing not only do you articulate what you understand about the topic but you are also able to discover the gaps in your knowledge. Good writing skills help you succeed in any profession.
- Poor writing is among the most criticized skill gaps by employers.
- Whatever your career goal - accountant, technician, engineer, lawyer, police officer - you can be sure that it will involve writing. In fact, most employers ask for a writing sample as part of the interview process.

Believe it or not, writing can be fun! For many, writing is relaxing and entertaining. Honing your skills in a W course can advance your writing in many creative venues: email, journal, poetry, novels, memoir, personal web site, etc.