Writing across the Curriculum Requirement for General Education

**Background:** The Ad Hoc Committee for General Education recommended “that CCSU adopt a Writing Across the Curriculum program following the broad outlines proposed by the Senate’s Ad Hoc Committee on that subject. First-year students should receive foundational support in writing from ENG 110 and the Critical Inquiry Seminar, while completing mid- and upper-level courses in their major that reinforce skills and develop writing appropriate to their major disciplines.”

**Proposal:** As part of their General Education, all CCSU students shall complete three writing-intensive courses:

1. **Freshman Composition:** either ENG 110, ENG 105, or their equivalent at another university as evaluated for transfer by the English Department. Students may also be required to fulfill a remedial writing requirement before taking Freshman Composition, if indicated by placement procedures.
2. A 200- or 300-level course in the student’s discipline. This course could be an “Introduction to Writing for [Discipline]” course, an “Introduction to [Discipline]” course with a substantial focus on discipline-based writing, or another course with a significant writing component that introduces students to the writing conventions of the discipline. The course may be offered in the student’s major or, if the department in question prefers, in a related major. If no suitable course can be provided, students can take an Introduction to Writing in the Disciplines course offered by the English Department.
3. A 400-level capstone-style class that involves a discipline-specific project with a significant writing component as well as substantial writing instruction directed towards the work of the project. The course may be offered in the student’s major or, if the department in question prefers, in a related major. If no suitable course can be provided, students can take a Capstone Writing course offered by the English Department.

**Further Details:**

- The Faculty Senate shall create a standing Writing Across the Curriculum (WAC) committee drawn from faculty campus-wide with expertise in writing instruction. The elected committee shall be responsible for setting standards for WAC courses in the disciplines; evaluating course proposals and making recommendations to the Curriculum Committee’s Gen Ed subcommittee; offering training to interested faculty in creating WAC courses and in writing instruction generally; and supporting and promoting writing at CCSU through such means as workshops, programs, contests, awards, and guest speakers.
- At a minimum, all courses qualifying as WAC courses shall involve not only a substantial, discipline-appropriate amount of writing but also attention to the writing process including instruction in and opportunities for brainstorming, topic development, revision, peer response, editing and proofreading.
- Freshman Composition (ENG 110 or 105) shall count as three credits towards the General Education requirement. Discipline-specific writing courses shall not count in Gen Ed but may count towards the major at the discretion of the department. WAC
courses offered by the English Department for students whose majors do not offer them may be counted as Gen Ed electives.