

University of Massachusetts at Lowell Outcomes for First-Year Writing

These objectives were designed in consultation with the Council of Writing Program Administrator's Outcomes Statement for First-Year Writing, available at www.wpacouncil.org/positions/outcomes/html.

College Writing I (42.101)

College Writing I engages students in the writing process, developing the skills that will enable them to succeed in their writing tasks at the University and beyond.

The broad learning objectives for this course include the following:

- Students will engage in the writing process, including drafting, revising, editing, and proofreading, considering clarity, purpose, audience, and style.
- Students will develop an understanding that multiple drafts enhance the final written product.
- Students will work with other students to provide feedback, critiquing the work of others and revising based on suggestions of others, developing an awareness of the value of collaboration in the writing process.
- Students will practice expository writing utilizing a variety of rhetorical strategies in response to a variety of audiences.
- Students will develop an awareness of the proper structure, genre, and conventions for different rhetorical situations.
- Students will hone critical reading and thinking skills.
- Students will write texts that integrate their own thoughts with the words and ideas of others.
- Students will explore their roles as participants in an academic community, learning how to employ writing throughout their college careers and beyond.
- Students will review relevant grammar, mechanics, and style.
- Students will be expected to practice academic honesty and avoid plagiarism.
- Students will exit with an awareness of their strengths and weaknesses as writers, and the self-assessment tools necessary to continue on successfully in their writing careers.
- Students will write consistently in various forms, including short responses, summaries, drafts, peer responses, and revisions, culminating in a portfolio of at least four formal essays.

College Writing II (42.102)

College Writing II will build on the skills developed in College Writing I, with students now fully engaging in the research process, enhancing writing skills that will encourage success throughout their college careers and beyond.

The learning objectives for College Writing II include the following:

- Students will engage in the writing process, including drafting, revising, editing, and proofreading, considering clarity, purpose, audience, and style.
- Students will explore the research process, including:
 - generating topics, ideas, questions, and problems
 - developing and supporting a thesis statement
 - finding, assessing, and analyzing primary and secondary sources of information
 - managing various research tools (the library, the Internet, databases)
 - proper documentation methods
 - academic honesty and avoiding plagiarism
- Students will continue to write texts that integrate their own thoughts with the words and ideas of others, practicing documentation skills and entering into the academic conversation.
- Students will continue to sharpen their analytic skills by writing analyses.
- Students will review and employ relevant grammar, mechanics, and style.
- Students will be expected to practice academic honesty and avoid plagiarism.
- Students will exit with an awareness of their strengths and weaknesses as writers, and the self-assessment tools necessary to continue on successfully in their writing careers.
- Students will write consistently in various forms, including short responses, summaries, drafts, peer responses, and revisions, culminating in a portfolio of at least four formal essays.