

Writing Program

Nina Ringer, *Director*

The Writing Program offers writing instruction designed to support The College of New Jersey's goals and outcomes for Liberal Learning, specifically those concerning intellectual and scholarly growth. Students should develop confidence as writers who can communicate clearly and effectively to an array of audiences for a range of purposes. All students, therefore, are required to take three writing intensive courses during their tenure at the College.

These include the First Seminar (FSP), taken in the fall semester of the first year; a mid-level writing intensive course in the major in either the sophomore or junior year; and a senior-level writing intensive capstone course in the major in the senior year.

In addition, some entering students will also be required to take a writing instruction course to help better prepare them for the demands of their writing intensive requirements. WRI 102/Academic Writing provides training and practice in the analysis and production of persuasive arguments. Entering students who do not score at or above the scores listed will be required to take WRI 102 unless they gain exemption through the college's Writing Exemption and Placement Exam. The following scores exempt students from the course:

- For students who took the SAT before March 2016, scores of at least 580 in *both* Math and Critical Reading; OR
- For students who took the SAT after March 2016, scores of at least 600 in Math and 640 in Evidence-Based Reading and Writing; OR
- An ACT composite score of 26 or higher; OR
- An AP score of 4 or higher in English Literature, English Composition, US History, or World History.

Transfer students who have successfully completed one college-level course in writing prior to their admission to the College (3 semester hours or greater) are exempt from WRI 102 regardless of their SAT, ACT, or AP scores. The course must be approved as equivalent to WRI 102.

Finally, some students' scores on the Exemption and Placement Exam indicate the need for additional assistance as early as the fall semester, when students are enrolled in their First Seminar. These students will take WRI 101/Writing Studio, to help them through their first year writing tasks.