

PROFILE OF WRITING IN THE COLLEGE OF SCIENCE (COS)

Writing in WI Courses

- **Astronomy research proposal** or project on phenomenon such as the general theory of relativity; black holes; remnant blackbody radiation; big bang cosmology; and thermodynamics.
- **Biology manuscript for publication** on issues related to the physical environment, energy flow, structure and function of populations, dynamics of communities, and succession.
- **Case study** on an ecological principle related to the physical environment, energy flow, structure and function of populations, dynamics of communities, and succession.
- **Chemistry laboratory report** on theory of experimental physical chemistry.
- **Geography research project** and poster on topics related to analysis of world resources. distribution, conservation, and preservation; and problems resulting from their natural occurrence and utilization.
- **Geology grant proposal** related to research on processes that occur at earth's surface and resulting landforms.
- **Math proofs** (e.g., proof by contradiction, proof by induction, or proof by exhaustion) with explanation in prose.
- **Scientific paper** on issues related to oceanography such as the residual effects of oil spills on ocean life.
- **Scientific issue paper** on issues related to marine conservation such as conservation of marine biodiversity.
- **Scientific technical report** on biochemical and physical properties of biological molecules.

WRITING-INTENSIVE (WI) COURSES

ASTRONOMY

ASTR 490 – Astronomy Capstone

BIOLOGY

BIOL 307 – Ecology

CHEMISTRY

CHEM 336/7 – Physical Chemistry Lab I/II

CHEM 465 – Biochemistry Lab

COMPUTATIONAL AND DATA SCIENCES

CDS – TBA

GEOGRAPHY

GEOG 303 – Conservation of Resources and Environment

GEOLOGY AND EARTH SCIENCE

GEOL 317 – Geomorphology

MATHEMATICAL SCIENCES

MATH 290 – Foundations of Mathematics

MEDICAL TECHNOLOGY

BIOL 307 – Ecology

PHYSICS

GEOL 417 – Geophysics

The WI Requirement

Section size is limited to 35; 3500+ words of graded writing across two or more assignments; detailed feedback on draft with opportunity to revise; class time devoted to detailed instruction on writing assignments; revision not required but recommended on short assignments.

Other Writing Activities Across COS

both formal and informal writing infuses many courses, whether or not they are writing intensive

- Lab journal
- In-class writing describing an experiment or field experience
- Weekly note sets on problems and experiments
- Explanation of discovery, development, and importance of a scientific theory
- Comparison of two scientific areas with written discussion of relationships that exist
- Written critique or debate on contentious scientific issue
- Lab notebooks in Med Tech

Writing Processes

- Select audience and purpose
- Identify format – IMRAD, APA
- Use peers for review
- Write multiple drafts
- Apply problem-based learning

Sources of Feedback

- Teacher's written comments
- Peer review comments
- Writing tutor assistance

