

What are writing intensive courses?

Writing intensive sections are designated with a “W” and are taught by faculty certified in Writing Across the Curriculum.

In a writing intensive course, students read and write actively to achieve the learning goals faculty have defined for the course.

In a section designated writing intensive, you would expect to find . . .

- assignments that build on one another.
- required revision of papers on the basis of teacher/peer response.
- writing in response to reading assignments.
- opportunities to write informally, perhaps even personally, about course content.
- a few short papers rather than a term paper.
- short answer writing on examinations.

Writing intensive sections are capped at 25 students.



Who teaches writing intensive courses?

Any faculty member who has been certified in Writing Across the Curriculum may, with the agreement of the department Chair, offer any course on a writing intensive basis.

As of Fall 2007, approximately 50 certified faculty are eligible to offer writing intensive sections of their courses in the following disciplines: Art, Biology, Business, Education, English, Health, History, Mathematics, Music, Philosophy, Physical Education, Physical Sciences, Political Science, Psychology, Recreation, Sociology, Speech, and Tourism and Hospitality.

Certified Faculty

Rebecca Arliss
Michele Bracco
Carol Biermann
Anthony Borghese
Rosemary Bufano
Geraldine Chapey
Mary Dawson
Mel David
Jonathan Deutsch
Chris Fey
Lea Fridman
Karen Goldman
Matthew Gartner
Richard Graziano
Nataniel Greene
Brian Hack
Patricia Hazlewood
Don Hume
Christina Hurley
Holly Krech-Thomas
Mohamed Lakrim
Tom Lavazzi
Gail Levine
Pat Lloyd

Ted Markus
Laurel Marshall
Theresa Mastrianni
Fredric Mayerson
Betsy McCully
Maxine McGarvey
Michael Miranda
Jose Nanin
Kasumi Parker
Joan Paduano
Rick Repetti
Caterina Pierre
Jacob Segal
Nick Skirka
Fran Smith
Charles Swift
Petra Symister
Loretta Taras
Silvea Thomas
Barbara Walters
Marvin Williams
Christoph Winkler
William Winter
Gordon Young

How does a KCC faculty member become certified?

1. Sign up to participate in the WAC Faculty Seminar.

The seminar is designed to help faculty revise a course syllabus to better realize the learning goals using active reading and writing. Faculty discuss readings, work on course and assignment design, and write reflectively about their own teaching.

Faculty may work on a learning community theme course or a stand-alone course in their discipline.

The seminar combines face to face and online formats.

2. Pilot the revised syllabus the following semester with the help of a CUNY graduate student working as a Writing Fellow.
3. Compile a course portfolio – assemble materials that describe your course, including copies of your assignments and sample student work.
4. Submit the course portfolio to the Committee on Certification at the beginning of the following semester.



What are the benefits of becoming certified?

Faculty receive a number of tangible benefits:

- A three credit course release in the semester the course is piloted.
- A letter of appreciation from the Provost towards tenure and promotion.
- An extra hour of compensation each semester a writing intensive section is offered for up to six semesters.
- A course cap of 25 students every time a writing intensive section is taught.
- The assistance of a CUNY Writing Fellow to help fine-tune assignments, read and respond to drafts of student writing, work with individual students in L219, and respond to Blackboard postings.

Faculty consistently note the following more intangible benefits:

- Getting to know faculty from other departments and disciplines.
- Identifying new teaching/learning goals in a course.
- Thinking about the processes of student learning in their discipline.
- Interacting more with their students.
- Livelier classroom discussions.

For more information, contact any of the following people from the WAC community:

WAC Advisory Board

Jonathan Deutsch, Tourism and Hospitality
Kate Garretson, English
Don Hume, Health
Gail Levine, Health
Pam Mahon, Nursing
Ted Markus, Biology
Theresa Mastrianni, Business
Gloria Nicosia, Communications
Florence Schneider, Behavioral Sciences
Michael Sokolow, History

Area Coordinators

Liberal Arts: Ted Markus
Allied Health and Human Services: Don Hume
Business / TAH: Jonathan Deutsch

Writing Across the Curriculum Directors

Kate Garretson, kgarretson@kingsborough.edu
Gloria Nicosia, gnicosia@kingsborough.edu

WAC Website

www.kbcc.cuny.edu/WAC



CUNY Writing Fellows with KCC WAC Directors

*WAC belongs to the Coordinated Undergraduate Education (CUE) initiative at Kingsborough Community College.
CUE Senior Administrator: Dean Reza Fakhari*



Becoming Certified to Teach Writing Intensive Sections at Kingsborough Community College



Writing Across the Curriculum Program

The Writing Across the Curriculum (WAC) Program is a CUNY-wide initiative designed to support intensive use of reading and writing in all disciplines – across the curriculum.