



Committee on Writing (COW) Guidelines for Writing Intensive Courses

Writing intensive classes should have both formal and informal writing opportunities. When students write papers, essays, reports, or other types of formal, graded writing, they should have some kind of feedback as the draft develops and an opportunity to revise. Writing Intensive courses must include, at least, one required revision to one assignment of formal writing. Informal writing, sometimes called writing-to-learn, can take many forms: journals, reading logs, in-class responses, dialogic notebooks, directed free-writes, and so on, but its main purpose is not so much to assess students but to help them connect intellectually with the course content. While Utica College's definition of a writing-intensive course is intended to be flexible enough to be applicable in a wide variety of courses, it does require inclusion of both formal and informal writing.

Please note that Writing Intensive courses have an enrollment cap of 20. While faculty may over-enroll their Writing Intensive courses, we would encourage you not to do so.

Deadlines: Applications for Writing Intensive designation are due by the first day of the semester prior to the semester in which the course will be offered as Writing Intensive. For example, the application for a course to be offered as Writing Intensive in a spring semester 2016 should be submitted by the first day of the 2015 fall semester.