

GUIDELINES AND REGULATIONS FOR A WR COURSE

These guidelines are based on typical characteristics of writing intensive courses at other institutions as well as on the curricular needs of Furman University:

1. The course must include a major writing project that requires student research and the use of citations in a format appropriate to the discipline of the course.
2. As students prepare to engage in their writing project, they will receive instruction in those aspects of information fluency that relate to the course's discipline. Library faculty are available to support student research.
3. Professors will hold conferences with students to discuss revisions of the writing project, in order to produce a high-quality finished product.
4. The professor will provide instruction about the purpose of citations, including the relationship of citations to the broader issue of academic integrity.

Students will complete at least one course classified as WR. These classes will have a course capacity consistent with existing small and seminar classes, and they may simultaneously fulfill any other Core or Global Awareness GER, Interdisciplinary Minor, or Major requirements met by the course.

By requiring a "writing/research intensive course" that can be taken at any time in a student's career, and which can also count as a major course or GER, we achieve the narrow pedagogical objective of increasing student writing practice without necessarily adding another required course to student schedules. Continued emphasis on writing and research in a seminar discussion-based classroom experience (with a topic about which the instructor is very passionate) is also a way to develop critical thinking and analysis skills.

Students who successfully complete a WR course should be able to demonstrate the ability to synthesize information acquired through their own research by writing an individual research paper of appropriate complexity and length for the discipline. The research paper should demonstrate competency with a citation system appropriate to the discipline. WR courses are distinctive from FYW courses in their focus on discipline specific research methods and processes in conjunction with effective writing.

In order to meet these learning objectives WR classes will have a course capacity consistent with existing small and seminar classes. The WR course can only be taken after a student has successfully completed the FYW requirement. A class with WR designation may simultaneously fulfill any other Core or Global Awareness GER, Interdisciplinary Minor, or Major requirements met by the course. Individual departments will determine which of their courses would be appropriate to request WR designation. WR will not count against a department's limit of offering no more than three different GERs. As a GER, the request for WR designation will be reviewed by the Academic Policies Committee (APC) and voted on by the faculty. Though

approval of WR designation will be for a specific courses, it is not necessary that every section of that course have the WR designation. The faculty member teaching the course in consultation with the department chair will determine which sections of the course will have WR designation. Pedagogical support for faculty members who teach WR courses will be provided on an ongoing basis.