Writing Enriched (WE) Courses
Information for Advisors, Faculty, and other Staff

What is a Writing Enriched Course?

- A Writing Enriched (WE) course is a program-designated course that includes more disciplinary writing than a regular course and is certified by the WE Committee as a graduation requirement.
- The WE Committee is a faculty-led committee, overseen by the Faculty Senate and supported by the Senior Associate Provost, that manages this graduation requirement for UVU's bachelor-degree students and supports faculty in its implementation.
- To graduate, students who are seeking bachelor-degrees must complete two WE-certified courses within their major.
- A WE-certified course:
    - is a core course to the major or emphasis.
    - incorporates disciplinary writing.
    - includes both high-stakes and low-stakes writing.
    - provides students with faculty feedback for revision.

WE Benefits

WE is one of UVU's high-impact practices (HIPs). HIPs have been shown to significantly improve student engagement, learning, and retention. WE courses focus on discipline-specific writing, immerse students in writing-enriched tasks, and provide valuable opportunities for feedback and revision. By developing these essential skills, WE courses prepare students for both academic success and future careers.

- **Career Readiness**: WE prepares students for the writing they will do in their profession.
- **Skill Development**: In alignment with UVU's Essential Learning Outcome *Communication,* WE reinforces writing skills and competencies beyond the General Education program.
- **Efficiency**: WE integrates writing education into core courses, which eliminates the need for separate writing-intensive courses.

Proactive Strategies for Ensuring WE Course Completion

To support students in fulfilling the WE requirement, these proactive strategies are essential.

1. ***Early Communication***: Advisors discuss the WE requirement with students during initial advising sessions, ensuring they understand the importance of completing two WE-certified courses in their major and how these courses fit into their overall academic plan.
2. ***Course Planning***: Advisors help students incorporate WE courses into their academic schedules early on, ensuring that they are aware of the specific WE courses within their program and are on track to complete them in a timely manner.
3. ***Collaborate with Departments***: Advisors work closely with faculty and academic departments to track students' progress and intervene early when needed to ensure that students are on the right path to completing the WE requirement.

Addressing Possible Student Situations
Advisors or Registrar's Office staff may encounter students who have not completed one or both required WE courses in their program of study, including transfer students, returning students, or those changing majors. In such cases, they should consult the academic department of the student's major for guidance. The department chair or a designated faculty member will review the situation to determine whether an exception is warranted or if an alternative path can satisfy the WE requirement.

Contact Information

- WE Committee: https://www.uvu.edu/writingenriched/
    - Chair: Dr. Masood Amin

- WE Committee Faculty Representatives
    - College of Health and Public Service: Amie Houghton
    - College of Humanities and Social Science: Dr. Estee Crenshaw
    - College of Science: Dr. Jon Anderson
    - School of the Arts: Patrick Wilkey
    - School of Education: Dr. Hamed Shafiei
    - Smith College of Engineering & Technology: Dr. Masood Amin
    - Woodbury School of Business: Dr. Joel Helquist

- UVU Writing Center:
    - Director, UVU Writing Center: Dr. Lisa Bell

- Provost Office Support:
    - Senior Associate Provost for Academic Programs, Assessment, and Accreditation: Dr. Katie Busby
    - Senior Administrative Assistant: Lori Phipps