

FACULTY RESOURCES

The WAC Program provides a variety of resources to help faculty teach writing. These and other resources can be found at <http://www.qc.cuny.edu/Writing>.

- Materials for teaching academic writing, such as:
 - Lesson plans created by faculty at Queens and other colleges
 - A bank of handouts on topics ranging from using sources to overcoming writer's block
 - A collection of writing manuals and guidelines in the disciplines
 - A collection of assignments from various disciplines and levels in the curriculum
 - The complete catalogue of books and articles of the WAC Resource Library (Razran Hall 316)
- Current W course offerings
- Sample W syllabi
- Information about Queens College blogs
- The General Education Task Force's report
- A collection of links to sites dealing with WAC and writing in general
- Information about upcoming events
- Details about the procedure for proposing new writing-intensive courses

OTHER RESOURCES:

Center for Teaching and Learning

<http://www.qc.cuny.edu/ctl>

Queens College Rosenthal Library

<http://www.qc.cuny.edu/Library/>

The Bard Institute for Writing and Thinking

<http://www.bard.edu/iwt/>

The Purdue Online Writing Lab

<http://owl.english.purdue.edu/>

WHERE CAN MY STUDENTS GET HELP WITH WRITING?

The Queens College Writing Center

The Queens College Writing Center offers individual tutoring, in-person and online. It is located in Kiely 229 and can be reached at 718-997-5676 or <http://www.qc.cuny.edu/qcsw/>.

A. In-Person Appointments

Students needing help with their writing can be assigned weekly one-hour appointments during these hours:

Mon. & Tue., 10 am–8 pm

Wed. and Thur., 10 am–2 pm & 3–8 pm

Friday, 10 am–1 pm

Saturday, 10 am–3 pm

Sunday, 10 am–2 pm

B. "Dropping-In"

Any student who needs help with writing can "drop-in" by coming to the Writing Center at five minutes past the hour during our hours of operation. In this way, one can work with a tutor whose appointed student has not arrived.

C. Online Tutoring

A student can get feedback on essays via email from one of our specially trained e-tutors. For more information, please visit <http://www.qc.cuny.edu/qcsw/etutor1.html>

The Queens College Writing Fellows

The Queens College Writing Fellows can work directly with students, either individually or in groups, or put them in touch with someone who can. Writing Fellows' contact info can be found at <http://www.qc.cuny.edu/Writing>.



Queens College

65-30 Kissena Blvd.
Flushing, NY 11367-1597



WAC and Writing-Intensive Courses

A GUIDE FOR FACULTY



Writing Across the Curriculum
Razran Hall 316
718-997-4695 • Fax: 718-997-4698
www.qc.cuny.edu/Writing/

WAC AND WRITING-INTENSIVE COURSES

A 1999 Board Resolution established a Writing Across the Curriculum (WAC) program on each campus in the CUNY system. WAC's mandate is to support the integration of writing instruction into every discipline in the University.

One of the key objectives of WAC at Queens College is to aid instructors in the development and teaching of writing-intensive (W) courses. The college requires its undergraduates to complete three W courses in order to receive a degree. As defined by the Academic Senate, a W course must meet the following four criteria:

1. 10–15 pages of evaluated writing in three or more assignments.
2. Some attention to writing in class, in one or more of the following possible ways:
 - Discussing papers before they are written and after they are returned
 - Reading successful papers aloud
 - Discussing the rhetorical strategies or writerly qualities of course readings
 - Using informal, ungraded writing
 - Offering opportunities for students to give each other feedback on their work
 - Discussing goals for student writing and evaluation criteria.
3. Exams that include essay questions.
4. Maximum class size of 30 students.

More information on W courses, including current offerings, sample syllabi, and guidelines for proposing new W courses, can be found at the WAC Web site at <http://www.qc.cuny.edu/Writing>.

CUNY WRITING FELLOWS

Queens College's CUNY Writing Fellows (CWFs) are six doctoral candidates from the CUNY Graduate Center who support the WAC program by offering:

- **In-class workshops** to help students develop skills vital to successful college-level writing, such as thesis development, outlining, constructive use of faculty feedback, revision strategies, and proper use and documentation of sources.
- **Individual and group meetings** with students from classes in which Fellows have conducted workshops. Meetings can provide students with follow-up or more information on workshop topics. In addition, CWFs can identify a student's specific needs and communicate those needs in a referral to the campus's Writing Center.
- **Consultation with faculty members** to help design effective, skill-building writing activities appropriate to a faculty member's discipline and individual classroom approach. CWFs can also help faculty learn more about WAC approaches and general methods to improve students' writing skills.

FACULTY PARTNERS

Faculty Partners are faculty who work in division-based teams, alongside Writing Fellows, to further the goals of WAC on a college-wide scale. Faculty Partners' tasks include:

- Identifying the needs of departments and faculty offering W courses
- Working with academic departments to conceive discipline-specific writing goals for students
- Conducting faculty workshops in their divisions
- Devising methods for assessing the outcomes of W courses

- Developing resources to help faculty and students meet these goals

If you are interested in performing some of these activities as a Faculty Partner, see the WAC Web site at <http://www.qc.cuny.edu/Writing>.

FACULTY DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOPS

WAC is in continuous cooperation with the Center for Teaching and Learning and the Educational Technology Lab to offer faculty development workshops. Previous topics have included:

- Syllabus development
- Writing assignment design
- Use of technology in class
- Response to student writing
- Detecting and avoiding plagiarism
- Research techniques

GOALS FOR STUDENT WRITING

In 2007 the Faculty Senate approved a document articulating the Goals for Student Writing at Queens College. This document focuses on the writing skills that students ought to develop while at Queens College, with special attention to strategies that instructors can implement to foster these skills.

The Goals document identifies four key areas that can help students become effective writers:

- Elements of Academic Writing (e.g., articulate a focused argument)
- Processes and Methods (e.g., develop ideas through techniques such as outlining and revision)
- Style, Conventions, and Mechanics (e.g., write in clear, controlled prose)
- Discipline- and Profession-Specific Techniques (e.g., use language appropriate to the discipline and audience)

The Goals document can be read in its entirety at <http://www.qc.cuny.edu/Writing>.