

Outcomes for TME001: First Writing Course May 2018

1. Rhetorical Knowledge

Throughout the first course, students should practice reading and writing in several genres. By the end of their first writing course, students should

- Understand how genre conventions shaped the texts they read and should shape the texts they compose.
- Understand the possibilities of electronic media/technologies for composing and publishing texts for a variety of audiences.
- Compose texts that
 - Have a clear purpose.
 - Respond to the needs of intended audiences.
 - Assume an appropriate stance.
 - Adopt an appropriate voice, tone, style, and level of formality.
 - Use appropriate conventions of format and structure.

2. Critical Thinking, Reading, and Writing

By the end of their first writing course, students should be able to

- Use reading and writing for inquiry, learning, thinking, and communicating.
- Locate and evaluate secondary research materials, including visual texts such as photographs, videos, or other materials.
- Analyze relationships among writer, text, and audience in various kinds of texts.
- Use various critical thinking strategies to analyze texts.

3. Knowledge of Composing Processes

By the end of their first writing course, students should be able to

- Recognize that writing is a flexible, recursive process that typically involves a series of activities, including generating ideas and text, drafting, revising, and editing.
- Understand that writing is often collaborative and social. To demonstrate that understanding, students should be able to
 - Work with others to improve their own and others' texts.
 - Balance the advantages of relying on others with taking responsibility for their own work.
- Apply this understanding and recognition to produce successive drafts of increasing quality.
- Use electronic environments to support writing tasks such as drafting, reviewing, revising, editing, and sharing texts.

4. Knowledge of Conventions

By the end of their first writing course, students should be able to

- Recognize the genre conventions for structure, paragraphing, tone, and mechanics employed in a variety of popular forums.

- Learn to control syntax, grammar, punctuation, and spelling through practice in composing and revising.
- Select and employ appropriate conventions for structure, paragraphing, mechanics, and format in their own writing.
- Acknowledge the work of others when appropriate.
- Use a standard documentation format as needed.

5. Minimal Course Requirements

By the end of their first writing course, students will have written

- A variety of texts with opportunities for response and revision.
- A minimum of 5000 total words of formal, edited text.
- Frequent “low-stakes” assignments, such as journals, reading responses, and in-class efforts.