

1 San José State University
2 Academic Senate
3 Curriculum and Research Committee
4 November 7, 2022
5 First Reading

AS 1838

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7 **Amendment B to University Policy S19-3,**
8 **University Writing: Requirements/Guidelines,**
9 **University Writing Committee**

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11 **Rescinds:** [S94-7](#), [S95-5](#), and [F15-6](#)

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13 **Whereas:** The March 24, 2022 Chancellor [Memorandum](#) regarding CSU
14 Policy on the Graduation Writing Assessment Requirement (GWAR) states,
15 “the use of a stand-alone examination may no longer be used to
16 demonstrate competence in writing under the GWAR”, and

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18 **Whereas:** University data, collected between Fall 2019-Fall 2021, highlight
19 minimal differences in 100W grades among students who completed the
20 WST versus those who completed the directed self-placement assessment,
21 and

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23 **Whereas:** The CSU Credit for Prior Learning [policy](#), revised in October
24 2021, requires that when applicable, students shall earn academic credit
25 for prior learning , and

26
27 **Whereas:** Completion of 100W is intended to strengthen writing skills,
28 which supports student success in advanced courses and culminating
29 experiences, and be it further

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31 **Resolved:** That the following amendments to S19-3 be adopted.

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34 Approved: October 31, 2022

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Vote: 10-0-0

Present: Thalia Anagnos, Marc d'Alarcao, Stefan Frazier, Ellen Middaugh, Richard MocarSKI, Colin Onita, Megan Chang, Hiu Yung Wong, Scott Shaffer

Absent: Wei-Chien Lee, Safiullah Saif

Workload Impact: None anticipated

Financial Impact: None anticipated

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UNIVERSITY POLICY
University Writing: Requirements/Guidelines
University Writing Committee (UWC)
(from <https://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S19-3.pdf>)

- 1. Graduation Writing Assessment Requirement (GWAR), undergraduate level.**
 - a. Demonstration of competence in written communication shall be a requirement for graduation with any bachelor’s degree. Competence shall be demonstrated by satisfaction of the university requirement for Writing in the Disciplines (WID). Students shall satisfy the WID requirement either by passing a course approved as provided below in (c), or by satisfying the CSU Graduation Writing Assessment Requirement (GWAR) prior to matriculation at San José State University, or through credit for prior learning as applicable. Completion of General Education lower-division requirements for written communication and formal placement mechanism shall be the prerequisites for taking the WID course.
 - b. Normally, students shall satisfy the WID requirement as soon as possible after completion of 60 units. Departments should include 100W between 60 units and 90 units in their curricular roadmaps. The Provost or designee may allow 100W to appear in the roadmap after 90 units if they find that curricular patterns and requirements in particular majors justify the postponement.
 - c. Courses fulfilling the WID requirement:
 - i. Every department (or equivalent unit) responsible for an undergraduate degree program shall either offer an upper-division Writing in the Disciplines (100W) course for its majors or designate for its majors, by agreement with that department, such a course offered by another department. College deans shall coordinate department offerings to assure that students will be accommodated. The primary responsibility for offering such courses is that of the major department and college. A department shall not designate a course in another college without notice to and consent of both college deans.
 - ii. Courses satisfying the WID requirement are submitted for approval to the General Education Advisory Committee (GEAC) in the same manner as all other GE and SJSU Studies courses. For approval,

105 GEAC must be satisfied that the proposed course will require
106 substantial appropriate writing, that a high standard for successful
107 completion of the course will be maintained and that the course
108 complies with all other applicable criteria. GEAC shall periodically
109 review all approved courses and may recommend withdrawal if, in
110 GEAC's judgment, sufficiently high standards have not been
111 maintained or the course has otherwise become deficient. The
112 University Writing Committee (UWC) shall be consulted for advice
113 at GEAC's request.

114 d. ~~Writing Skills Test (WST):~~

115 ~~i. If permitted by the requirements of a major, the Writing Skills Test~~
116 ~~referred to above in (a) may also serve as a waiver examination for~~
117 ~~Written Communication II. The UWC shall designate the score on the~~
118 ~~WST necessary to satisfy the Written Communication II requirement.~~

119 ~~ii. The specific form and content of the WST and the minimum~~
120 ~~passing score shall be as approved by the Curriculum and Research~~
121 ~~Committee on the recommendation of the UWC.~~

122 ~~iii. The WST shall be administered by the Testing Office at least twice~~
123 ~~a semester and once each summer. Students taking the WST shall pay a~~
124 ~~fee sufficient to cover the costs of providing, administering, and grading~~
125 ~~the test.~~

126 e. ~~The Provost or designee shall appoint a faculty member recommended by~~
127 ~~the UWC as Writing Skills Test Coordinator. The duties of the Coordinator~~
128 ~~shall include appointment and training of faculty or other readers for the~~
129 ~~essays.~~

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131 **2. Graduation Writing Assessment Requirement (GWAR), graduate level.**
132 **[Unchanged]**

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134 **3. University Writing Committee (UWC) Charge and Membership**

- 135 a. Charge: The charge of the UWC shall be to develop and support writing
136 instruction at SJSU. To do this, the UWC shall study and support the
137 teaching of writing at all levels, all across the curriculum. The UWC shall
138 be a resource for the teaching and learning of writing all across campus, in
139 support of student writers' university careers from beginning to end.
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141 Members of the UWC serve a vital role as representatives of their colleges
142 and departments. UWC members shall communicate with faculty
143 members in their home colleges and departments, keeping them informed
144 of the activities of the UWC; act as conduits between their colleges and
145 departments and the UWC, helping the committee understand the various
146 (and varied) needs of departments and programs on campus; and help
147 develop policies and programs to address these needs.

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149 The UWC may sponsor workshops and training programs for instructors of
150 approved courses and shall use these and other appropriate means to
151 provide guidance on the uniformity of composition standards throughout
152 the University

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154 The UWC will be consulted as necessary for the following:

- 155 • assessment of the writing core competency
- 156 • placement of students in writing classes
- 157 • supplementary writing support for students
- 158 • writing in General Education and GVAR courses, especially Areas
159 A2, A3, and R; and writing in capstone and other courses as part of
160 a student's degree program

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162 b. Committee membership: [Unchanged]