

1 San José State University  
2 Academic Senate  
3 Curriculum and Research Committee  
4 March 20, 2023  
5 Final Reading  
6  
7

AS 1846

8 **Amendment B to University Policy S19-3**  
9 **University Writing: Requirements/Guidelines**  
10 **University Writing Committee**  
11

12 **Whereas:** The March 24, 2022 Chancellor [Memorandum](#) regarding CSU  
13 Policy on the Graduation Writing Assessment Requirement (GWAR) states,  
14 “the use of a stand-alone examination may no longer be used to  
15 demonstrate competence in writing under the GWAR”; and  
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17 **Whereas:** University data, collected between Fall 2019-Fall 2021, highlight  
18 minimal differences in 100W grades among students who completed the  
19 WST versus those who completed the directed self-placement assessment;  
20 and  
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22 **Whereas:** The CSU Credit for Prior Learning [policy](#), revised in October  
23 2021, requires that when applicable, students shall earn academic credit  
24 for prior learning; and  
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26 **Whereas:** Completion of 100W is intended to strengthen writing skills,  
27 which supports student success in advanced courses and culminating  
28 experiences; and be it further  
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30 **Resolved:** That the following amendments to S19-3 be adopted.  
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33 Approved: February 13, 2023  
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35 Vote: 9-0-0  
36  
37 Present: Thalia Anagnos, Marc d'Alarcao, Megan Chang,  
38 Collin Onita, Hiu Yung Wong, Stefan Frazier, Scott  
39 Shaffer, Marie Haverfield, Safiullah Saif  
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41 Absent: Richard Mocariski, Ellen Middaugh  
42  
43 Workload Impact: ~~None.~~ Elimination of workload for the administration  
44 of WST; New workload for the administration of Upper Division Writing  
45 Directed Self-Placement (UDW-DSP); Management of 100W placement  
46 process moves from the Testing Office to Academic Affairs.  
47  
48 Financial Impact: ~~None.~~ Reduction of testing fees for students.  
49 Testing Office will lose two-thirds of its income due to the removal of WST.  
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55 **UNIVERSITY POLICY**  
56 **University Writing: Requirements/Guidelines**  
57 **University Writing Committee (UWC)**  
58 (from <https://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S19-3.pdf>)  
59

- 60 **1. Graduation Writing Assessment Requirement (GWAR), undergraduate level.**  
61 a. Demonstration of competence in written communication shall be a  
62 requirement for graduation with any bachelor's degree. Competence shall  
63 be demonstrated by satisfaction of the university requirement for Writing in  
64 the Disciplines (WID). Students shall satisfy the WID requirement either by  
65 passing a course approved as provided below in (c), or by satisfying the  
66 CSU Graduation Writing Assessment Requirement (GWAR) prior to  
67 matriculation at San José State University, or through credit for prior  
68 learning as applicable. Completion of General Education lower-division

69 requirements for written communication and a formal placement  
70 mechanism shall be the prerequisites for taking the WID course.

71 b. Normally, students shall satisfy the WID requirement as soon as possible  
72 after completion of 60 units. Departments should include a WID course  
73 (100W) between 60 units and 90 units in their curricular roadmaps. The  
74 Provost or designee may allow WID courses (100W) to appear in the  
75 roadmap after 90 units if they find that curricular patterns and  
76 requirements in particular majors justify the postponement.

77 c. Courses fulfilling the WID requirement:

78 i. Every department (or equivalent unit) responsible for an  
79 undergraduate degree program shall either offer an upper-division  
80 Writing in the Disciplines (100W) course for its majors or designate  
81 for its majors, by agreement with that department, such a course  
82 offered by another department. College deans shall coordinate  
83 department offerings to assure that students will be  
84 accommodated. The primary responsibility for offering such  
85 courses is that of the major department and college. A department  
86 shall not designate a course in another college without notice to  
87 and consent of both college deans.

88 i. Courses satisfying the WID requirement are submitted for approval  
89 to the General Education Advisory Committee (GEAC) in the same  
90 manner as lower division GE and SJSU Studies courses. For  
91 approval, GEAC must be satisfied that the proposed course will  
92 require substantial appropriate writing, that a high standard for  
93 successful completion of the course will be maintained and that the  
94 course complies with all other applicable criteria. GEAC shall  
95 periodically review all approved courses and may recommend  
96 withdrawal if, in GEAC's judgment, sufficiently high standards have  
97 not been maintained or the course has otherwise become  
98 deficient. **The University Writing Committee (UWC) shall be  
99 consulted for advice at GEAC's request.**

100 ii.

101 iii.

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

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

- a. Charge: The charge of the UWC shall be to develop and support writing instruction at SJSU. To do this, the UWC shall study and support the teaching of writing at all levels, all across the curriculum. The UWC shall be a resource for the teaching and learning of writing all across campus, in support of student writers' university careers from beginning to end.

Members of the UWC serve a vital role as representatives of their colleges and departments. UWC members shall communicate with faculty members in their home colleges and departments, keeping them informed of the activities of the UWC; act as conduits between their colleges and departments and the UWC, helping the committee understand the various (and varied) needs of departments and programs on campus; and help develop policies and programs to address these needs.

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

The UWC will be consulted as necessary for the following:

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

- b. Committee membership: [Unchanged]