

WRITING COMPETENCY REQUIREMENT

Psychology Majors

The following information will help you prepare for meeting Biola University's writing competency requirement.

1. Start a file of all your written assignments from psychology courses (e.g., Intro. Psyc. book review, in-class reaction papers, essay exams, reports, and term papers). Each writing sample should be graded for writing competency by the professor who taught the class. It is a good idea to get in the habit of having your papers graded for writing competency when initially turned in for a grade. (A passing grade for writing competency is 3, 4, or 5.)
2. By the fall of your Junior year, a completed portfolio will contain four (4) written assignments from Psychology courses. All papers must be the original, graded paper, with the corrections and markings from the grader. It is your responsibility to make sure your papers have been graded for writing competency and to collect them for your portfolio.
 - **One** sample should be an **in-class** assignment and **three** should be **out-of-class** assignments. At least one sample should be a **term paper**. There should be three different psychology classes represented in your out-of-class papers.
 - Transfer students who are not able to assemble the four (4) writing samples will need to obtain departmental approval for a reduced Writing Competency requirement.
3. The Writing Competency requirement must be completed prior to filing your Senior Petition.
4. Filing a **Writing Competency Petition.**
 - Fill out the Writing Competency Petition completely and attach it to your portfolio of papers. (It is recommended that you keep a photocopy of your portfolio until you receive confirmation of your results.)
 - Bring your portfolio to the Psychology department office and it will be submitted to the department faculty for approval. You will be notified of the decision by letter and your portfolio of papers will be returned to you.
 - If writing competency has not been satisfactorily demonstrated, your advisor will return your petition with the recommendations of the faculty for completing the requirement.
5. Students unable to satisfy the writing competency requirement by the process outlined above will have to take the course, ENGL 210 Writing For Competency, and earn a C+ or better to be able to graduate as required by University policy.

Writing Competency Petition Undergraduate Psychology Program

Date _____ Box # _____

I, _____ (name) _____ (student number) hereby
petition approval of completion of the writing competency requirement for graduation.
To demonstrate competency in writing, I submit the following writing samples from
my
Psychology classes:

1. Report or Term paper assignment:

Course: _____ Semester: _____
Title: _____ W.C. Score _____

2. Report or Term paper assignment:

Course: _____ Semester: _____
Title: _____ W.C. Score _____

3. Report or Term paper assignment:

Course: _____ Semester: _____
Title: _____ W.C. Score _____

4. In class assignment:

Course: _____ Semester: _____
Title: _____ W.C. Score _____

Department Recommendation

_____ Approval of completion of writing competency requirement.

_____ Remediation (check one):

_____ (a) File demonstrates need for remedial assistance in bringing writing skills up to adequate competency level. Student is referred to the Writing Lab and is required to submit additional writing samples to demonstrate competency.

_____ (b) File lacks sufficient qualitative evidence of writing competency. Student is required to pass ENG 210 Writing For Competency prior to graduation.

_____ (c) File lacks sufficient quantitative evidence of writing competency. The faculty recommends the following:

Department Chair

Date