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CAL STATE EAST BAY
Current GWAR Policy

The California State University Chancellor's Office requires that all students, undergraduates as well as graduates, demonstrate competency in writing skills as a requirement for graduation; this CSU requirement is called Graduation Writing Assessment Requirement (GWAR).

Writing Skills

ust agree on the score, or it goes

er course (Quarter System
GL 300 or 301).
econd-tier course (Quarter System
ses: ENGL 302 or MKTG 305).

tudent's ability to write effectively in
ely to planning. The prompt is
ompts that are developed by
supervision of the Writing Skills
. Eac

T

TABLE 1

Education Level	Total		Graduate	Other
	5524		**634**	**23**
First-Time Takers	4066	3599	449	18
Repeaters	1458	1268	185	5
Nonstandard Administrations	**145**			
Alternative Accommodations				

TABLE 1A
WST ATTENDANCE

Academic Year	QUARTER								TOTAL
	FALL		WINTER		SPRING		SUMMER		
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N
1999-2000	1559	31%	1390	28%	1148	23%	920	18%	**5017**
2000-2001	1234	32%	1064	27%	1021	26%	577	15%	**3896**
2001-2002	1368	34%	962	24%	1079	27%	563	14%	**3972**
2002-2003	1258	33%	1264	33%	804	21%	515	13%	**3841**
2003-2004	1004	29%	1160	33%	901	26%	437	12%	**3502**
2004-2005	763	21%	917	26%	1072	30%	806	23%	**3558**
2005-2006	1253	32%	1070	27%	937	24%	710	18%	**3970**
2006-2007	607	17%	1510	43%	870	25%	501	14%	**3488**
2007-2008	759	25%	1209	40%	671	22%	388	13%	**3027**
2008-2009	875	24%	1563	43%	812	22%	426	12%	**3676**
2009-2010	690	25%	889	32%	749	26%	469	17%	**2797**
2010-2011	695	24%	1068	38%	698	25%	377	13%	**2838**
2011-2012	889	24%	1174	32%	845	23%	721	20%	**3629**
2012-2013	702	20%	1262	36%	963	28%	544	16%	**3471**
2013-2014	1023	23%	1263	29%	1217	28%	882	20%	**4385**
2014-2015	933	21%	1215	28%	1309	30%	948	22%	**4405**
2015-2016	1113	22%	1376	28%	1450	29%	1040	21%	**4979**
2016-2017	1703	24%	1614	23%	2087	30%	1620	23%	**7024**
2017-2018	1537	28%	1463	26%	1474	27%	1050	19%	**5524**
AVERAGE	**1051**	**26%**	**1233**	**31%**	**1058**	**26%**	**710**	**17%**	**4053**

TABLES

N	**%**	**N**	**%**	**N**	**%**	**N**	**%%**

TABLES 6, 6A and 6B: PASS/FAIL BY MAJOR FOR FIRST-TIME TEST TAKERS

Tables 6, 6A, and 6B show the number and percent passing by major for all first-time test takers and separately for undergraduate and graduate students first-time test takers.

For the College of Letters, Arts, and Social Sciences, the average undergraduate pass rate was 52% (N=627) and graduate student average pass rate was 53% (N=66).

For the College of Business and Economics, the average undergraduate pass rate was 50% (N=395) and graduate student average pass rate was 32% (N=25).

For the College of Education and Allied Studies, the average undergraduate pass rate was 52% (N=122) and graduate student average pass rate was 76% (N=38).

For the College of Science, the average undergraduate pass rate was 52% (N=696) and graduate student average pass rate was 34% (N=55).

Cross-disciplinary programs have been included in the "Other" category. The average undergraduate pass rate was 38% (N=10) and graduate student average pass rate was 33% (N=12).

TABLE 6A
PASS/FAIL BY MAJOR
FIRST-TIME TEST TAKERS - UNDERGRADUATES

MAJOR	N	PASS	%
OVERALL	**3599**	**1850**	**51%**
Letters, Arts, and Social Sciences	**1210**	**627**	**52%**
Anthropology	18	9	50%
Art	91	41	45%
Communication	127	69	54%
Criminal Justice Administration	198	88	44%
English	48	34	71%
Environmental Studies	17	11	65%
Ethnic Studies	17	11	65%
French	1	0	0%
Geography	1	0	0%
History	38	24	63%
Human Development	190	112	59%
International Studies	9	5	56%
Latin American Studies	0		
Liberal Studies	120	64	53%
Music	9	6	67%
Philosophy	5	1	20%
Political Science	48	28	58%
Social Work	3	1	33%
Sociology	224	99	44%
Spanish	10	3	30%
Speech Pathology & Audiology	27	19	70%
Theater Arts	9	2	22%
Business and Economics	**784**	**395**	**50%**
Business Administration	751	381	51%
Economics	33	14	42%
Education and Allied Studies	**236**	**122**	**52%**
Kinesiology	185	100	54%
Recreation	51	22	43%
Science	**1343**	**696**	**52%**
Biochemistry	18	12	67%
Biological Science	175	85	49%
Chemistry	12	9	75%
Computer Science	146	76	52%
Engineering	67	29	43%
Environmental Science	13	9	69%
Geology	6	4	67%
Health Science	391	184	47%
Mathematics	24	16	67%
Nursing	145	85	59%
Physics	6	1	17%
Psychology	327	178	54%
Statistics	13	8	62%
Other	**26**	**10**	**38%**
Special Major	0		
Other	25	10	40%
Undecided	1	0	0%

MAJOR	N	PASS	%
OVERALL	**449**	**196**	**44%**
Letters, Arts, and Social Sciences	**125**	**66**	**53%**
Communication	4	2	50%
English	6	4	67%
Health Care Administration	54	26	48%
History	0		
Multimedia	4	0	0%
Music	0		
Public Administration	25	13	52%
Social Work	22	12	55%
Speech Pathology & Audiology	10	9	90%
Business and Economics	**78**	**25**	**32%**
Business Administration	72	25	35%
Economics	6	0	0%

MAJOR	N	PASS	%
Education and Allied Studies	**50**	**38**	**76%**
Counseling	16	14	88%
Education	19	16	84%
Educational Leadership	4	2	50%
Kinesiology	6	2	33%
Recreation	3	2	67%
Special Education	2	2	100%
Science	**160**	**55**	**34%**
Biological Science	11	7	64%
Chemistry	4	2	50%
Computer Science	63	10	16%
Engineering	40	15	38%
Geology	1	1	100%
Marine Science	0		
Mathematics	8	5	63%
Stats ts	s		

TABLES 7 and 7A: PERFORMANCE IN WST BOOT CAMP PROGRAMS

Table 7 shows performance on the SCAA WST Boot Camp Program.

TABLE 8
PERFORMANCE ON FIRST-TIER PORTFOLIO 2017 - 2018

SCORE	NO WST		1 TIME WST		2 OR MORE		Total		
FALL 2017	**N**	**%**	**N**	**%**	**N**	**%**	**N**	**%**	
Limited Competence	6	6.5%	1	2%	2	11%	9	5.7%	
Developing Competence	44	47.3%	27	59%	9	47%	80	50.6%	
Clear Competence	43	46.2%	18	39%	8	42%	69	43.7%	**PASS**
TOTAL	**93**		**46**		**19**		**158**		
WINTER 2018									
Limited Competence	4	5%	3	7%	5	20%	12	8%	
Developing Competence	34	41%	22	49%	15	60%	71	46%	
Clear Competence	45	54%	20	44%	5	20%	70	46%	**PASS**
TOTAL	**83**		**45**		**25**		**153**		
SPRING 2018									
Limited Competence	2	3%	0		2	8%	4	3%	
Developing Competence	23	40%	12	32%	14	56%	49	41%	
Clear Competence	33	57%	25	68%	9	36%	67	56%	**PASS**
TOTAL	**58**		**37**		**25**		**120**		
SUMMER 2018									
Limited Competence	1	5%	1	7%	2	15.4%	4	8.7%	
Developing Competence	12	63%	6	43%	9	69.2%	27	58.7%	
Clear Competence	6	32%	7	50%	2	15.4%	15	32.6%	**PASS**
TOTAL	**19**		**14**		**13**		**46**		
TOTALS ACADEMIC YEAR 2017-18									
Limited Competence	13	5%	5	4%	11	13.4%	29	6%	
Developing Competence	113	45%	67	47%	47	57.3%	227	48%	
Clear Competence	127	50%	70	49%	24	29.3%	221	46%	**PASS**
TOTAL	**253**		**142**		**82**		**477**		

TABLES 9 and 9A: PERFORMANCE RATE IN SECOND-TIER COURSES

Table 9 shows performance on the second-tier courses.

Students who have received a score of Developing Competence on the WST or in a 1st tier course must pass a 2nd tier course with a C-, CR, or better to satisfy the UWSR.

Overall 91% (N=1515) students pass the second-tier course and satisfied the requirement.

Approximately 18% enrollment in the second-tier courses increased from the last academic year 2016-17.

Table 9A shows performance rate by academic year.

TABLE 9
PERFORMANCE ON SECOND-TIER COURSES

ACADEMIC YEAR 2017 - 2018	ENGL 3003			MKTG 3495			TOTAL ENROLLED
	N	PASS	% PASS	N	PASS	% PASS	
Fall 2017	233	209	90%	188	174	93%	421
Winter 2018	287	264	92%	162	150	93%	449
Spring 2018	341	304	89%	199	176	88%	540
Summer 2018	186	167	90%	71	71	100%	257
TOTAL	**1047**	**944**	**90%**	**620**	**571**	**92%**	**1667**

CONCLUSION

In Academic Year 2017 – 2018, the pass rate for undergraduate first-time test takers is 51% and the essay mean is 7.46 (using the three scale score consisting of 6, 7, and 8). For first-time test taker graduate students, the pass rate is 44% and the essay mean is 7.30.

The similarity of graduate and undergraduate pass rates and essay means continues and still seems significant, particularly in light of the ongoing discussion about whether graduate students should have to meet this requirement in the same way as undergraduates do, although it must be noted that many graduate students are exempt from the requirement for one reason or another.

Historically, all WST test score means and pass rates for native English speakers have been significantly higher than for non-native speakers.

Enforcement of the UWSR policy

APPENDIX A

BACKGROUND

All CSU East Bay students who began work on their present baccalaureate degree after summer, 1977, or students admitted to graduate programs after summer, 1980, are required to satisfy the University Writing Skills Requirement (UWSR) as GWAR.

A number of revisions of this requirement have been made by the Academic Senate and/or the Writing Skills Subcommittee since 1977. Perhaps the most notable of those changes is in the way in which the UWSR can be satisfied.

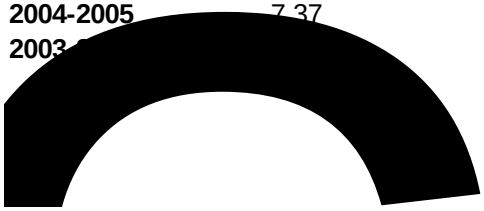
- Those who began degree work between fall 1977 and summer 1985 have the option of satisfying the requirement by passing the Writing Skills Test (WST) or taking an approved course.
- Those who began work from fall 1985 through summer 2004 were required to take the WST. If they passed the WST, the requirement was satisfied; if not, the requirement could be satisfied by passing one or two UWSR approved upper division writing courses depending on the WST score achieved.
- Beginning in fall 2004, students have been able to opt to take the WST once or twice or to enroll directly in a first-tier course. CSUEB accepts satisfaction of the GWAR while matriculated at any other CSU campus as proof of proficiency and accepts particular scores on certain other writing tests such as CBEST, GMAT, or GRE in lieu of the WST.

Until 1998, the WST consisted of a sixty-minute expository essay based on a prompt and an

From the mid-1990s until 2003, the WST was scored by outside agencies. In the spring of 2003, the Writing Skills Subcommittee decided to return essay scoring to CSUEB faculty starting in fall 2004. A panel of faculty consisting of readers from across the disciplines was trained and began scoring essays for the fall administration of the test.

From winter quarter 2000, until fall quarter 2004, students were required to take the WST, and if they failed the test with a score of "7," they could elect to take the WST one more time or pass a second-tier writing course (ENGL 3003, MKTG 3495, MLL 3119, MLL 3309, SCI 3010, or SCI 3020). Those who failed the WST with an essay score of "6" or less could not retake the WST and were required to pass a first-tier course (ENGL 3000/3001) before enrolling in a second-tier course. The first-tier course was taught with a common syi-13.2 (h a c)-20.1 (om)-12.3 (m)-/(w)9.V (bUes)-8.1 (2.2 (es)-8(s)-8.1 T)-17.5 (a.2 (el

APPENDIX B

HISTORIC DATA

WST	ESSAY MEAN ANALYTIC - 90 min[1]	% PASS	ESSAY MEAN ANALYTIC - 90 min[1]	% PASS
2017-2018	7.46	51%	7.30	44%
2016-2017	7.51	57%	7.24	38%
2015-2016	7.51	57%	7.34	49%
2014-2015	7.55	61%	7.26	43%
2013-2014	7.52	60%	7.31	48%
2012-2013	7.49	57%	7.39	53%
2011-2012	7.48	58%	7.37	53%
2010-2011	7.45	56%	7.25	44%
2009-2010	7.43	55%	7.39	52%
2008-2009	7.47	55%	7.35	52%
2007-2008	7.43	54%	7.40	56%
2006-2007	7.45	57%	7.49	61%
2005-2006	7.37	51%	7.45	57%
2004-2005	7.37	57%	7.44	58%
2003