Upper-Division Writing Skills Courses

All students must fulfill the Upper-Division Writing Skills requirement to earn a baccalaureate degree. Students are strongly encouraged to fulfill this requirement as a junior (during a semester in which 60–89 units have been completed). To meet this requirement, students may have two options:

- Pass the Upper-Division Writing Exam (if allowed by the major), OR
- Earn a minimum C or credit (CR) grade in one of these upper-division writing courses:

  AFRS 104W – Writing About American Inequality (3 units)
  ANTH 105W – Applied Anthropology (also satisfies GE–M/I) (3 units)
  ANTH 116W – Anthropology of Religion (also satisfies GE–ID) (3 units)
  ASP 105W* – National Security Affairs/Preparation for Active Duty (3 units)
  BA 105W – Business Communication (3 units)
  CFS 130W* – Professional Writing in Child and Family Science (3 units)
  CHEM 161W – Scientific Writing Workshop (3 units)
  CLAS 102W – Contemporary Chicana/Latina Writing and Culture (3 units)
  EES 135W – Dinosaurs (3 units)
  ENGL 115W – Literature of the New Testament (3 units)
  ENGL 117W* – Writing from Children’s Literature (3 units)
  ENGL 160W – Writing Workshop (4 units)
  ENGR 105W – Engineering and Entrepreneurship (3 units)
  HHS 116W – Interprofessional Communication in Health and Human Services (3 units)
  HIST 100W* – Historical Research and Writing (3 units)
  IT 198W – Technical Writing (3 units)
  JS 100W – The Jewish American Experience (3 units)
  LING 110W* – Advanced Composition for Foreign Students (3 units)
  LING 111W – Academic Writing Workshop (3 units)
  MCJ 102W* – Reporting (3 units)
  PHIL 133W – Literature of the New Testament (3 units)
  PLANT 110W – Dimensions in Agriculture (3 units)
  SOC 130W – Contemporary Social Issues (4 units)
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Note: English 5A/B or English 10 are prerequisites to W courses and the Upper-Division Writing Exam. Some majors outside of the College of Science and Mathematics require a specific "W" course.

* Enrollment may be restricted or have additional prerequisites. Check the course description in the catalog or class schedule.
** "S" sections include a service-learning requirement
(http://fresnostate.edu/academics/cesl/students/service-learning/index.html)

Updated 9/2017 SC

Beginning Fall 2017, the UDWE is...
- A fully online exam that is offered throughout the year
Upper-Division Writing Exam (UDWE)

- Composed of two 60-minute essays (and one 10-minute break)
- Designed to assure that your writing skills are at the upper-division level.

Any undergraduate student who has completed English 5A and 5B, or English 10 with a grade of C or better AND have completed 60 units may take the exam in order to meet the Upper Division Writing Skills requirement. In order to graduate on schedule, it is strongly recommended that this exam be taken soon after 60 units have been completed (and at least two semesters prior to graduation). The alternative is to successfully complete an upper division course with a "W" designation (some majors require the class).

SPECIAL NOTE: Students may take the exam a maximum of 2 times. If you fail the exam two times, then a "W" class is required to fulfill the writing requirement.

UDWE PASSING SCORE: 10-12

UDWE CREDIT: An enrolled California State University, Fresno undergraduate student (but not post-baccalaureate/graduate), may receive 1 unit of credit (English 100W) for passing this exam. The unit of credit is not automatic but may be requested by the examinee on the day of the test. In order to avoid extra fees, a student must be enrolled at Fresno State the semester the unit of credit is to be posted. If the proper form is completed on the day of the test, the unit will be posted to a student’s file on:

1) The registration cycle of the exam (provided the add/drop period has not ended before the scores are posted)

2) The registration cycle following the one in which the UDWE passed.

Also, as with all other credits added to a program of study, if the additional unit moves a student from one fee category to another, the student will be billed accordingly. Nonresident students will be billed nonresident tuition for the additional unit.

Testing Fee: $33.50

Registration

You MUST pre-register for this exam. Walk-ins on the day of the exam will NOT be allowed. You must have a Fresno State ID# in order to register online for this exam.

There are no refunds, transfer of test dates, or cancellation options for this exam.

If you need special accommodations, please complete your registration process and make arrangements through Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD). Please note: Any accommodations must be made 2 weeks prior to the day you registered to take the exam. Visit the SSD website at fresnostate.edu/ssd/

Bulldog Testing Center
Location: Family and Food Sciences Room 210
Phone: (559) 278-4137
Website: http://www.fresnostate.edu/academics/bulldogtestingcenter/