

Critical Writing and Reading Core Requirements

Approved Guidelines

The requirement is fulfilled by one course (INTD 105) emphasizing analytical writing and textual analysis. Because the skills involved in close reading require sensitivity to the subtleties of carefully constructed prose and the ability to recognize, construct, and assess arguments in written form, this requirement emphasizes both form and content in the written work. INTD 105 may be taught by faculty from all areas of the academic curriculum. Sections of the course will focus on significant, complex works from a variety of disciplines. This requirement must be met in the freshman year or, for transfer students, during the first year of enrollment. (Students transferring to Geneseo from another college or university may petition the Office of the Dean of the College for approval of an equivalent or comparable course to meet this requirement.)

All sections of INTD 105 Writing Seminar: (topic) must do the following:

1. Each section must focus on a topic that requires the close reading of works of sufficient complexity so as to provoke challenging questions that demand well reasoned responses. If the material of the course is textual, required texts should be complete works by authors who have had a significant impact in scholarly, artistic, or social settings. Textbooks, or discussions of primary sources, are not appropriate as the principal objects of study. If the focus of the course is not textual--it may be music, artwork, or cinema, for example--then written criticisms of the works under consideration should be included for study.
2. The principal skill to be acquired in INTD 105 is the ability to produce sustained, coherent, and persuasive arguments on

significant issues that arise from the content at hand. In turn, students will be expected to express themselves clearly according to the conventions of Standard English. Each section will require students to purchase a writing handbook.

3. Each section of INTD 105 will require students to write six papers of at least three pages in length. [Of the six, at least one assignment--and a maximum of two--must be a thoughtful, comprehensive revision of an earlier assignment. Students will write a minimum of four original assignments, plus revised papers taught as independent assignments.] A minimum of 5000 words (approximately twenty double-spaced pages) is expected from each student of the course.

4. Since discussion and feedback are important, sections of INTD 105 will have enrollment caps of no more than 25 students each.

5. Sections may be offered by any faculty member from any department (with, of course, the approval of their departments).

6. All courses must be open and accessible to all students in the College, i.e., no section will be reserved for particular majors.

7. All sections will be scheduled in time slots requiring a minimum of two class meetings per week.

8. Each section of INTD 105 will require students to be instructed in library research and Information Technology by Geneseo library faculty.

9. Departments and department chairs will have primary responsibility for ensuring that sections of INTD 105 meet these guidelines. The Office of the Dean of the College will further assure adherence to the guidelines.