

What is the University Writing Portfolio?

The University Writing Portfolio is a mid-career diagnostic used to determine if students' writing abilities have advanced in ways that can handle the writing demands of upper-division courses and courses in their major. The Writing Portfolio identifies students who demonstrate a need for structured writing support with upper-division writing requirements, as well as recognizes the standard of writing expected of all WSU graduates.

Writing Portfolio Evaluation Criteria

- DISCERNIBLE ARGUMENT** Does the writing have a purpose? Can the reader identify the purpose?
- EVIDENCE/SUPPORT** Is the writing developed with evidence/support?
- COHERENCE** Does the writing work as a whole?
- USAGE** Is the language, word choice, and tone appropriate to the topic and context?
- CONVENTIONS** Does the writing demonstrate control of surface features, such as: punctuation, spelling, and/or grammar?

Writing Portfolio Results

Your Writing Portfolio will be evaluated as one entity after you submit the packet and complete the timed write. We do not evaluate the timed write by itself. Results are sent to your my.wsu account in the form of a notice. Because the Writing Portfolio fulfills a UCORE Requirement, it will be evaluated by a cross-departmental committee of WSU faculty. The committee will give it one of three ratings:

COMPLETED WITH DISTINCTION The work represents the top 10% of WSU junior-level writing. This achievement will be entered on to your WSU transcript. Your Writing Portfolio requirement will be fulfilled.

COMPLETE The work shows a proficiency in writing suitable for upper-division work at WSU. Your Writing Portfolio requirement will be fulfilled.

IN PROGRESS The work shows a need for additional, structured writing assistance in upper-division course work. You will be required to take additional coursework in the form of a one-credit writing collaborative or a three-credit writing course. You must complete the additional course assigned to you in order to satisfy the Writing Portfolio requirement. Writing collaboratives are facilitated through the Undergraduate Writing Center.

In the case you believe the evaluation result is inaccurate, you have 120 days to formally appeal the decision.

