

NorthWest Arkansas Community College
Division of Communication and Arts
English Academic Literacy Department

Course Number and Title

ENGA 0063, Intermediate Writing

Catalog Description

The study and practice of sentence structure rules, critical thinking skills, writing as a step-by-step process, and basic grammar. Students will learn to express ideas and opinions in clear, organized paragraphs and essays. Students will also learn word processing as it applies to academic writing. Successful completion allows a student to enter English Composition I.

Prerequisites

18 or below on the ACT English (or other equivalent placement test score), and a 19 or above on the ACT Reading (or other equivalent placement test score)

Credit hours/Contact hours/Load hours

1 credit hour, none counting toward any degree requirements

Target Audience/Transferability

In accordance with state law, entering students are directed into developmental writing courses appropriate for addressing their academic needs and guiding them toward college success. Academic Literacy Writing is a non-transfer course. This is a required course for entering freshmen who score an 18 or below on the ACT English (or other equivalent placement test score), and who also score a 19 or above on the ACT Reading (or other equivalent placement test score). These students must also enroll in ENGL 1013 Composition I as a corequisite and successfully complete both courses to fulfill the remediation requirement.

Student Learning Outcomes

All NWACC Academic Literacy Writing sections establish that a successful student

- Uses grammar rules in improving proofreading techniques.
- Writes good sentences and analyzes sentence components for clarity, variety, and coherence.
- Demonstrates techniques for writing structured and unified paragraphs.
- Demonstrates techniques for writing a multi-paragraph essay through a focused thesis statement.
- Uses specific detail to support the thesis for expository writing.
- Chooses standard English for writing assignments.

Topics

Essay organization, structure, and development; sentence structure, grammar, mechanics; and incorporation of MLA formatting and research. In addition, students can expect to write using reading prompts.

Forms of Assessment

In all sections of Academic Literacy Writing, a pre-diagnostic is given in the first week of class. Its purpose is to establish incoming skill relative to course success. A parallel post-diagnostic is given at the end of the semester. Students also complete mastery-based online supplemental software assignments, write 3-4 essays, and submit a portfolio demonstrating advancement of the writing process over the course of the semester.