

1 I believe all students entering postsecondary education should be required to take a
2 writing course. Whether you are a writer, an artists or an accountant, a writing course should
3 be taken to broaden your vocabulary and writing skills required by high paying careers.
4 Having a writing course background can help you in many ways, no matter what profession
5 you elect to pursue. It can help you writing a well-organized email, resume or a letter with
6 clarity. Before entering a college or university you have the basic skills to construct
7 sentences, place punctuations and make it readable. Taking a postsecondary writing course
8 will connect your previous learning and help you construct a well all around paper. This is
9 why I believe that taking a postsecondary writing course it required for any major or career
10 desired.

11 Postsecondary writing is one of the most important courses you will have to take. No
12 matter what major you choose writing skills is required by most professions. For example,
13 "...communication skills are considered the highest-ranked 'must have' for job candidates,
14 according to a survey conducted by the National Association of Colleges and Employers. In
15 other words, learning to communicate well may be your surest path to achieving your career
16 goals and getting the job you want in the future" (Dumbauld). As seen in the previous
17 statement being able to write attracts employers because it gives them a sense of confidence
18 that a candidate will be able to communicate with ease. Being able to write can promote good
19 communication and clarity between the speakers to avoid any misunderstandings. I believe
20 this is what most employers are seeking. The ability to convey a message to a potential client
21 or a longtime customer and know you will get you message across clearly. According to
22 Dumbauld article "One of the outcomes of a college education is the acquisition of fluency.
23 Fluency, in this case, doesn't mean the ability to speak another language well enough to order

1 food at a restaurant and ask directions in a foreign country; it means being able to process
2 information, no matter what form that information comes in, perform critical analysis on that
3 information, and communicate your thought-process and conclusions effectively in words."

4 Clear writing skills can be the difference between getting hired or not. With so much
5 technology we can forget how to spell or write a full sentence, making writing skills an
6 essential part of the postsecondary curriculum.

7 We live in a social media world where we abbreviate everything to get our message
8 across to a friend or blog with limited space. This can really influence the way we speak or
9 write because we usually speak the way we write or vice versa. Taking a writing course can
10 assure you will continue using appropriate grammar, spelling, and structure for your future
11 success. Many employers are aware of the social media way of expression and worry that that
12 type of writing skill will roll over to the work force. For example two employers say, "Another
13 partner of a firm said he was so embarrassed by an associate's writing, he couldn't put it in
14 front of a client. A sales manager agreed, 'We have gotten so used to texting our messages to
15 people or tweeting that we have forgotten how to spell or put two words together" (Russell).
16 Taking a writing course at a higher learning institution can help limit this type of writing in the
17 work force because you will learn what is appropriate and how to show off your new skills.
18 This can be beneficial after submitting an application. According Russell's article, "Employers
19 often tell me they are surprised by how often applicants do not review what they submit.
20 Incorrect grammar, spelling and language usage can make a very bad impression. Using an
21 informal style relying on abbreviations, not using punctuation and failing to capi-tal-ize - does
22 not come across as professional. Many hiring managers figure that if a person demonstrates
23 poor writing skills when highly motivated to apply for a job, those skills probably won't be
24 any better once on the job." With so much technology we get comfortable talking casual that

1 it can roll over to the work force and impact the way we are viewed.

2 Writing skills are not just crucial in a work environment but in your daily life as well.
3 We communicate with many people a day and having good writing skills can help you
4 communicate with the other party clearly with no misunderstandings. Many of us have
5 encountered a person that has a hard time trying to express themselves due the lack of reading
6 or writing skills. In my experience I was the person trying to convey my message that the
7 other individual did not understand. This was made clear in an article I read that, "Without
8 effective communication, a message can turn into error, misunderstanding, frustration, or
9 even disaster by being misinterpreted or poorly delivered" (Good Communication Skills).
10 Writing skills has a strong connection to the way you communicate verbally with others, so if
11 the writing and reading skills are not present it can harm your image. "While many
12 individuals still continue to struggle, the inability to communicate effectively will hold them
13 back not only in their careers, but in social and personal relationships" (Good
14 Communication Skills). Being able to communicate clearly can avoid many
15 misunderstandings and help come to a mutual understanding between individuals. Many
16 would argue that this is not true but in my experience I believe that great writing skill will
17 help you communicate much better.

18 Many would argue that taking a postsecondary writing course will not offer them
19 anything they do not already know. They have learned the basic fundamentals to write and
20 would be able to communicate. In the article by Benrubi she states the following, "My first
21 college writing course at Santa Clara reviewed many of the basic points I had already gleaned
22 from high school English courses." Though this might have some truth to it I believe that basic
23 skills are not enough at a professional level. Students in the Art, Math, Music and Dance
24 departments would argue that taking a composition class would be a waste of time because

1 they will not need it in their careers. At some point in their career they will need to use well-
2 constructed paragraphs that they could have improved on by taking a post-secondary writing
3 course. Some would say, "One can not write any better than he can think" (Russell). That
4 statement can be changed if a composition course was to be taken in critical thinking. It can
5 open your views to issues you might find interesting. Having a postsecondary writing course in
6 your background can be advantageous in any career you pursue.

7 In conclusion, I consider that all students entering postsecondary education should be
8 required to take a writing course. Taking a writing course can only help widen your writing
9 skills that are required by most careers. Writing is something you do on a daily bases whether
10 it is writing an email or leaving a note. You need good writing talent to be organized and leave
11 a clear message. Writing skills helps you move easily among facts or opinions without getting
12 confused and without confusing your reader. With today's technology and social media we can
13 easily lose our writing abilities. Due to the limited space we are provided we tend to abbreviate
14 our words creating our real world vocabulary to disappear. We tend to see more misspelled
15 word now that we are used to using abbreviated words. This can cause a problem in all aspects
16 of your life because you might be writing something important and forget how the real words
17 are spelled. Taking a postsecondary writing course can prevent this from happening because it
18 allows you to think of what you are writing and helps you construct paragraphs that make
19 sense.

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Work Cited

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Work Sample Evaluation

Subject Area: Composition 2

Task Title: I Already Know How to Write! Do I Really Need a Course in Composition?

Student Work Sample Title: N/A

The document was scored using the *CCR Task Bank Rubric*. The final scores are indicated in the following chart.

Scoring Criteria	Insufficient Evidence	Developing	Progressing	Accomplished	Exceeds
Research and Investigation				X	
Ideas and Content				X	
Reading and Analysis			X		
Communication			X		
Organization				X	
Accuracy			X		

Annotations: The following evidence from the work sample and the reviewer’s comments support the scores above. Page and line numbers refer to the original work sample.

Scoring Criteria	Page #	Line #	Commentary about the work sample
Research and Investigation: <i>Locating resources independently and/or identifying information within provided texts</i>	1	13-16	The student provided several sources in the work sample. All sources in the work-cited page are formatted correctly.
Ideas and Content: <i>Presenting a thesis and understanding concepts</i>	1	8-10	The student provides a strong thesis.
Reading and Analysis: <i>Evaluating sources and selecting evidence to support the central idea</i>	1	16-18	The student discusses the previous quote. However, it is merely a restatement of the information provided in the quote.
	2	16-18	The student does a good job of making a connection to the previous quote here.
Communication: <i>Using subject-appropriate language and considering audience</i>	All		The student uses simple, clear communication, but not especially advanced or collegiate vocabulary.
Organization: <i>Structuring main ideas and supporting information</i>			The paper is well organized.
Accuracy: <i>Attending to detail, grammar, spelling, conventions, citations, and formatting</i>	1	2-3	The student uses singular with plural and they are missing hyphens when needed.
	1	22	This sentence is in need of an apostrophe.
	3	5	There is a problem with pronoun/antecedent agreement.
	4	9	The word bases is spelled incorrectly, should be –basis.
			In-text citations lack page numbers throughout.