

Graduation Writing Assessment Requirement (Revised)

(Approved 4/20/2023)

Clean Policy #1: Graduation Writing Assessment Requirement (GWAR)

All undergraduate students must demonstrate competency in writing skills as a requirement for graduation. At CSUN, all students who have met the lower division writing requirement, completed 56 units or more, and intend to graduate with a baccalaureate degree are required to demonstrate their writing proficiency.

1. Students may meet the GWAR by receiving a grade of “C” or better in a minimum of 6 units of coursework in designated Writing Intensive* upper division curriculum; or
2. Students may meet the GWAR by receiving a grade of “C” or better in ENGL 345 Recursive Writing.

Undergraduate students are required to meet the Graduation Writing Assessment Requirement no later than the semester in which they complete 90 units. Students who have not met this requirement by the completion of 90 units may have a registration hold placed on their subsequent registration.

*All students are required to complete 9 units of Writing Intensive courses, normally satisfied by Upper Division General Education courses or approved pattern modifications.

Clean Policy #2: Bachelor’s Degree Requirements

To graduate from CSUN, students must complete all of the following requirements:

1. The applicable [General Education](#) program, which includes requirements in American History and U.S. State and Local Government.
2. The requirements for a major.
3. Writing Skills Requirements as listed below.

Lower Division Requirement

Upper Division Requirement

CSUN has implemented the California State University Trustee Policy for the Graduate Writing Assessment Requirement (GWAR) for all upper division students. Students who

have completed 56 units and have met the lower division writing requirement will be required to meet the GWAR through coursework in designated Writing Intensive upper division curriculum or completion of ENGL 345 Recursive Writing.

- a. Students may meet the GWAR through demonstration of writing proficiency by receiving a grade of “C” or better in 6 units of coursework in designated Writing Intensive upper division curriculum (usually two courses of Upper Division General Education) at CSUN. Note that a grade of “C-” or lower in Upper Division General Education will meet the General Education requirement but not the GWAR requirement, and articulated upper division coursework transferred from another institution does not meet this requirement.
- b. Students may meet the GWAR through completion of ENGL 345 Recursive Writing with a grade of “C” or better.

Note: Certification of graduation writing competence will be transferable from one CSU campus to another. However, students must pass the GWAR at the campus at which they are matriculated.

Clean Policy #3: General Education Rules

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Writing Intensive (WI) Requirement

All upper division GE courses are designated Writing Intensive (WI). Therefore, the WI requirement will be satisfied by meeting the upper division General Education requirement. Writing Intensive courses require students to complete writing assignments totaling a minimum of 2,500 words. Only courses approved for upper division GE or as equivalent pattern modifications may be designated as Writing Intensive.

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