



Learning Goal: Thoughtful Expression

Date: Spring 2013

What was assessed: Eight faculty scorers scored 187 work products from ACG445, FST110, MUS115, NSG415, SED372, and THR121.

How it was assessed: The VALUE Written Communication rubric and the Thoughtful Expression (Written) rubric

Results:

Thoughtful Expression results, lower division courses

Lower-Division Courses		
<i>Dimension</i>	<i>% of Work Products Scored Two or Higher</i>	<i>% of Work Products Scored Three or Higher</i>
WC1 Context of and Purpose for Writing	76.4%	31.3%
WC2 Content Development	75.5%	25.5%
WC3 Genre and Disciplinary Conventions	72.7%	20.8%
WC4 Sources and Evidence	59.4%	21.7%
WC5 Control of Syntax and Mechanics	83.9%	35.3%

Summary:

- For the lower-division courses, the benchmark achievement is defined as rubric score level two.
- WC1 and WC5 had more papers meeting or exceeding the benchmark than the other dimensions.

Results:

Thoughtful Expression results, upper division courses

Upper-Division Courses		
<i>Dimension</i>	<i>% of Work Products Scored Two or Higher</i>	<i>% of Work Products Scored Three or Higher</i>
WC1 Context of and Purpose for Writing	87.6%	44.4%
WC2 Content Development	86.4%	32.1%
WC3 Genre and Disciplinary Conventions	87.7%	30.9%
WC4 Sources and Evidence	80.2%	43.2%
WC5 Control of Syntax and Mechanics	90.1%	46.9%

Summary:

- For no dimension did a majority percentage of work collected from upper-division courses meet the level three.
- WC1 and WC5 had more papers meeting or exceeding the benchmark than the other dimensions.

Overall Results for both divisions:

- The 300-level work scored significantly higher than the 400- or 100-level work, suggesting that the student achievement on the Written Communication rubric may be related less to experience than to the particular assignment.
- Dimensions that draw upon more sophisticated skills, such as the use of content to develop one's own ideas, using sources to support one's own position, and using disciplinary conventions, scored lower.

For additional discussion of these findings, see the 2012 Annual Report available Fall 2012 at <http://www.uncw.edu/assessment/general/findings.html>.