



# Interdisciplinary Writing Program

Department of English

## Mission and Values Statement

**Our Mission:** The Interdisciplinary Writing Program (IWP) offers discipline-linked writing courses that create small intellectual communities focused on students' development as writers. Through personalized instruction, including conferencing over writing in progress, we partner with our students to help them cultivate disciplinary knowledge, communication skills, and confidence. We acknowledge varied communities of belonging and see collaborative engagement over context-specific writing as an important means of fostering students' academic, professional, and personal success. All IWP courses satisfy the C or W requirement.

### *Key Value: Collaboration & Intellectual Community*

#### **Actions**

- Discover and welcome students' interests, challenges, and knowledge
- Engage students in peer feedback/peer review
- Guide collective criteria generation
- Foster collaborative research and writing projects
- Design, teach, and provide mentorship for anti-racist curricula and equitable classroom practices
- Support students academically and personally

#### **Outcomes**

- Understanding of disciplinary knowledge as contested and communal
- Empowered ability to draft, assess, and revise writing in multiple contexts
- Confidence in critically participating in various academic and professional writing occasions
- Sense of personal belonging within and beyond the IWP
- Curricula that subvert oppressive norms vis à vis race, gender, sexuality, language, and other social identities

### *Key Value: Teacher Development*

#### **Actions**

- Provide instructional guidance through the IWP Workshop & ENGL 592
- Include formal and informal graduate instructor mentoring
- Encourage collaboration among disciplinary faculty, graduate instructors, librarians, and other professional staff on curriculum & assignment design
- Strategically use course evaluations (formal and informal) for continued development

#### **Outcomes**

- Sustained, supportive teaching communities
- High quality courses that draw on expertise of many
- Ongoing reflective practice by core faculty

### *Key Value: Partnerships Across and Beyond the University*

#### **Actions**

- Collaborate on curriculum and scholarship with other university faculty, TAs, librarians, advisers, professional staff, and centers, including initiatives such as the Praxis Conference
- Engage Writing in the Disciplines scholarship in order to inform our teaching with accepted theory and practice and to create program visibility in the field
- Develop career, internship, and community-based opportunities for students and TAs
- Serve on program, departmental and institutional committees and initiatives
- Foster partnerships with various publics beyond the immediate university community

#### **Outcomes**

- Interdisciplinary and interdepartmental initiatives
- Ongoing civic participation from students, faculty, and staff
- Public scholarship and outreach to communities underserved by U.S. institutions of higher learning



## Interdisciplinary Writing Program

### Department of English

#### ***What is the Interdisciplinary Writing Program (IWP)?***

The IWP is one of two writing programs housed in the English Department at UW Seattle. All IWP courses are taught or mentored by faculty.

**\*There are no prerequisites for any IWP course\***

**\*Every IWP course counts for a "C" or "W" credit, whichever you need\***

#### ***FOR STUDENTS:***

Our small classes (21 students max) allow instructors to conference with you over writing in progress so that you have a chance to further develop your ideas and revise before writing is graded. All students in the IWP writing seminar are enrolled in the linked lecture at the same time, and students often find that the work they do in the IWP course supports their learning in the lecture course.

#### ***FOR LINKED LECTURERS:***

IWP courses engage some of the concepts, texts, and methodologies from your lecture course as the basis for assignments that help students deepen their learning through writing. As we plan our writing seminars it is helpful to have your syllabus in hand, and IWP instructors often sit in on lectures to observe your materials and approaches. We are also happy to be consulted about writing assignment design and the role of writing in student learning. Conversations with you help us identify rich writing opportunities, and we can help you scaffold or make the most of writing occasions for students.

#### ***Some of the departments we partner with:***

Biology

Psychology

Astronomy

International  
Studies

American Ethnic  
Studies

Philosophy

Law, Societies,  
& Justice

Communication

Music

History

Political Science

American  
Indian Studies

Anthropology

**GET IN TOUCH: [IWPengl@uw.edu](mailto:IWPengl@uw.edu) • 206-543-2190**