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## Writing in the Disciplines Workshop

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# Gathering Exercise

As you get situated, take a few minutes to complete this activity.

- Using the sticky notes, try to break down the writing skills students need to learn to succeed within your discipline.
  - One skill per note.
- Post your notes under your discipline on the whiteboards.
  - Order does not matter.



# **Writing in the Disciplines: From XCOR 1000 to XCOR 3000**

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# Alphabet Soup

- **WAC: Writing Across the Curriculum**
  - Blanket term for institution-level pedagogy to “integrate writing across departmental boundaries.”
- **WTL: Writing to Learn**
  - The use of **short, informal writing tasks** to help students learn and reinforce concepts and ideas.
- **WID: Writing in the Disciplines**
  - Writing instruction and assignments that stress the **discipline-specific conventions and practices.**
- **WI/WIC: Writing Intensive Courses**
  - Writing at all levels of instruction & across the curriculum. Students produce & revise various forms for different audiences in different disciplines



Reflective Writing  
is a common  
Writing-to-Learn  
technique.

# Reflective Writing

5 minutes

Not really!

- Purpose:
  - To pause & consider how we developed the writing skills that are by now second nature to us.
- Task:
  - Write for five minutes on the following topic:
    - How did you learn to write like a member of your academic discipline?
- Assessment:
  - Your writing will be evaluated based on the level of effort I see what you have written.

# WID: End Goal

"WID assignments are *typically, but not exclusively*, formal documents prepared over a few weeks or even months. The final documents adhere to format and style guidelines typical of the professional genres they are helping students learn about. Teachers comment primarily on the **substance** of these assignments, but teachers also expect students to meet **professional standards** of layout and proofreading."

*Source: The WAC Clearinghouse*

<https://pollev.com/jasontodd770>

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# Skill Sets Exercise

- Go to the stickies from another discipline.
  - The more different from your own, the better.
- Try to rank **the order of importance** of that discipline's skill sets.
  - Which skills are most critical for student/future success in that discipline?





# **XCOR 1000: Reflecting**

- Students are encouraged to start thinking creatively about situations and events that may or may not be familiar to themselves and/or their experiences.
- WTL
  - Blogs
  - Freewriting
  - Reflective writing
  - Opinion pieces
  - Journals



# **XCOR 1011/1012: Reasoning**

- Students begin to transition to scholars as they interact with academics based literature and develop the habits of writing necessary to succeed in academic spaces.
- **WTL**
  - Reading journals
  - Response papers
  - Annotations
- **WID**
  - Lab/field reports
  - Position papers
  - Literature reviews



# **XCOR 3010/3020: Representing**

- Students are challenged to use writing to effectively interpret diverse sources of information and to establish defensible positions.
- WID
  - Research papers
  - Grant proposals
  - Position papers
  - <https://pollev.com/jasontodd770>



# **CCE Writing-in-the-Disciplines Saturday Workshop**

- During this half-day workshop, Xavier faculty will learn about best practices for teaching discipline-specific writing, will explore the diversity of writing tasks expected of students in different disciplines, and will begin to develop/adapt a major writing assignment to help students learn these skills.
  - Saturday, March 3, 2018
  - 10:00 am to 2:00 pm (Lunch provided)
  - Mellon Seminar Room (LRC 532B)
  - Limited to 9 faculty members
  - Participants will be compensated \$250

