Writing Proficiency Evaluation (WPE)

If you are a Transfer Student
The WPE is a junior year assessment of your critical reading, writing, and thinking skills and a requirement for all students in the following colleges:

- College of Liberal Arts (CLA)
- College of Science and Mathematics (CSM)
- College of Education and Human Development (CEHD)
- College of Public and Community Service (CPCS)
- College of Nursing and Health Sciences (CNHS)

If you have transferred into any of the colleges listed above with 30 or more credits you are required to take an Intermediate Seminar during your first or second semester at UMB and complete the WPE when you have reached 60 credits. Students transferring in 60 or more credits must take an Intermediate Seminar that first semester and take the WPE at the end of that semester because they will be close to or exceeding the 75-credit limit by the end of their first semester. Remember, if you go over 75 credits without passing the WPE then a hold will be placed on your account and it will not be lifted unless you sign a learning contract.

There are two ways that you can fulfill the WPE. Please visit our website at http://www.umb.edu/academics/vpass/undergraduate_studies/writing_proficiency/ for a complete description of the two options and for all of the policies (including the grading criteria and rubric) concerning the WPE. On our website, you can find the exact dates of the testing period and the schedule of workshops that will help you to prepare for the WPE.

If you are a First Semester Transfer Student and plan to submit a Portfolio:
Transfer students who choose the Portfolio option and who will have completed 75 or more credits at the end of their first semester at UMB, only need to submit ten pages of supporting material. Supporting material must be at least two papers. One paper must be at least five full pages, and no paper can be less than three full pages. All supporting papers must have been written in UMB courses and meet the other criteria for supporting papers.
CLA, CSM, CEHD, CPCS, and CNHS, students should complete the WPE after the completion of 60 credits or at the end of the semester that they have taken an Intermediate Seminar (a G200 course). All CLA, CSM, CEHD, CPCS, and CNHS-EHS undergraduate students must complete the WPE by the time they have earned 75 credits, whether or not they have taken an Intermediate Seminar. CNHS-Nursing students must complete the WPE before enrolling in NU 310 (generic nursing students) or NU 445 or 461 (RN students).

NOTE: As of SP 2010, EHS students follow the policies of CLA, CSM, CEHD and CPCS.

If you have any questions, please call the Writing Proficiency Office (617 287-6330) to schedule an appointment, or email us at Writing.Proficiency@umb.edu.