

# Knights Write: Southern Virginia University

## Quality Enhancement Plan - Executive Summary

Southern Virginia University's Quality Enhancement Plan, "Knights Write," is a multi-faceted, five-year project that will improve student writing through the following institutional goals:

1. Establish advanced writing courses required for graduation
2. Increase the effectiveness of the writing center
3. Increase institutional support for faculty to implement quality writing instruction within their respective courses.

### Initiatives

Each goal corresponds with one of the following initiatives:

First, the QEP will **establish advanced writing courses as a core graduation requirement**. These courses will better prepare students to cope with writing situations they encounter in upper-division courses at SVU. It will also help prepare students for writing situations they will encounter outside of the university, in the workplace and beyond.

Second, the QEP will **expand the Southern Virginia University Writing Center**. This will be accomplished by

- a) Professionalizing the Writing Center staff
- b) Establishing formal training for writing center tutors, and training specialized, discipline-specific writing tutors who will work with faculty to assess and grade writing performed in the courses faculty teach
- c) Providing professional development opportunities for the Writing Center Director
- d) Increasing the visibility of the Writing Center on campus through marketing and outreach

Third, the QEP will **develop and host summer faculty development seminars on "Writing in the Disciplines" (WID)** designed to increase the effectiveness of writing instruction at the university.

### Outcomes

The student learning outcomes that inform the direction of these efforts are concerned with the ultimate aim of the quality enhancement plan: Knights Write will improve student writing. To that end, the learning outcomes are four:

- 1) Students will demonstrate rhetorical awareness of diverse audiences, situations, and contexts;
- 2) Students will read and write to inquire, research, think critically and analytically, and communicate;
- 3) Students will demonstrate the effective use of processes to explore ideas, generate texts, review critically, and revise texts;
- 4) Students will demonstrate a knowledge of conventions, proper grammar, and documentation.

### Contact

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