

Talladega College



Pathway to Excellence: Strengthening Writing Skills

Talladega College's Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP), **Pathway to Excellence: Strengthening Writing Skills**, is designed to ensure that students enrolled at Talladega College learn to write appropriately and effectively. **Pathway to Excellence: Strengthening Writing Skills** will enhance the writing skills of freshman and sophomore students by integrating writing into specific general education courses other than those traditionally related to writing such as Communications (COM 101, COM 102, COM 201, and Com 202). In addition to these courses, intensive writing activities will be integrated into General Psychology (PSY 100), Introduction to General Sociology (SOC 100), Natural Science (NS 101 Biological Science and NS 102 Physical Science), and Math 101 and Math 102.

Talladega College is committed to ensuring that enrolled students will demonstrate significant writing improvement over the first two years of their matriculation. This aim is aligned with the College's mission that "provides academic programs and experiences for students, that among other outcomes, produce graduates who: think analytically and strategically, speak effectively and read critically, write with precision and clarity, exhibit competency in their academic discipline...."

The responsibility for implementation of the QEP is a joint endeavor involving the College's administration, faculty and staff. Already aligned with the mission statement, the QEP will be implemented into the College's strategic planning process including institutional effectiveness, assessment and use of results to ensure ownership, implementation and sustainability.

Pathway to Excellence: Strengthening Writing Skills was developed through a process that considered two other potential topics, analysis of data from a writing assessment that is administered to all Talladega College freshmen before they are placed in a communications class, and a three-day QEP work retreat where participants indicated that students needed more concentrated assistance in developing writing skills. With the aforementioned input, the QEP Team recommended writing as the focus to improve student learning outcomes and to support the mission of the College. Selected faculty will work across disciplines to develop and implement assignments that reinforce the writing skills introduced in freshman English courses.

A complimentary component of the **Pathway to Excellence: Strengthening Writing Skills** program will be the establishment of a Skills Enhancement Center. The Skills Enhancement Center will provide a comprehensive program of assessment, advising and support services designed to help students develop effective skills in writing, speaking, listening, and test taking. There will also be areas for small group meetings and one-on-one student advisement.

For further information on the development and implementation of Talladega College's QEP, please contact:

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