

## Writing Outcomes at FHSU

Reasoning and writing are something we want all our students to be able to do well. And it's done best when our students are reasoning and writing throughout their academic program—that is, within the GenEd program and within their majors.

To that end, Fort Hays State University has designated three writing and reasoning outcomes. Two of them are introduced in English Composition II and are further developed and assessed in the Critical Thinking course required within the GENERAL EDUCATION program. The third one is a GRADUATION REQUIREMENT to be met within a course in a student's MAJOR.

Here are the outcomes:

Met within the **GENERAL EDUCATION** program:

1. Write a *persuasive essay* that includes the following: a clear and debatable thesis, fully developed and supported ideas, clear organizational structure, effective consideration of opposing arguments, use of credible sources, appropriate documentation of sources, consideration of a target audience, and conventional grammar and mechanics.
2. Produce a written document on a difficult question involving the disciplinary content of the student's major that subjects the student's reasoning to *sustained, intelligent criticism* according to the standards of that discipline.

Met as a **GRADUATION REQUIREMENT** within a course in a student's MAJOR:

3. Produce a *discipline-specific document* judged proficient according to a department-approved rubric in the student's major.

These three outcomes provide the university a meaningful opportunity to bring into better focus the ways we teach writing and reasoning.