

GRADUATE WRITING ASSESSMENT REQUIREMENT (GWAR)

Graduate students must satisfy the Graduation Writing Assessment Requirement (GWAR) as soon as possible in their graduate study, unless they have already done so. Graduate students who have not met this requirement may do so by passing the regularly scheduled GWAR examination (offered once a quarter) or by earning a “C” or better in one of the approved GWAR courses.

Notes on the GWAR requirement:

1. You will be exempt from the GWAR if you meet any of the four criteria below.
 - a. You graduated from a CSU or UC since 1980.
 - b. You earned a high enough score on one of these tests:
 - GMAT** 4.5 or higher on the writing portion of the GMAT
 - CBEST** 41 or higher on the writing portion of the CBEST
 - GRE** 4.5 or higher on the analytic writing portion of the GRE General Test
 - c. An article that you have already published as first author in a refereed professional journal is judged by the Chair of the GWAR committee to satisfy the requirement.
 - d. The thesis or project you have already completed to earn an MA or MS in any discipline is judged the Chair of the GWAR committee to satisfy the requirement.
2. Students from campuses other than a CSU or UC may be considered to have met this requirement by taking a course at that university. Such students must submit a transcript with the course, the course description, and a syllabus for the course to the Composition Coordinator for evaluation.
3. Registration for the GWAR exam or course requires English 110 (C or higher), its equivalent, or a passage of the waiver examination.