University of Holy Cross

QEP (Quality Enhancement Plan)

“Let’s Write Right: Writing in the Disciplines”

Goal: The primary goal of the QEP is to ensure that all students graduating with a Bachelor’s degree from UHC have written successful papers in their major discipline.

The program will assist undergraduate students in acquiring the knowledge, skills, and attitudes necessary for success in major fields of study through the proficient use of University-level written communication.

Key steps toward achieving this goal:

- Expansion of the tutoring program in the Writing Lab
- English proficiency testing of all students completing ENG 102 (English Composition II) at UHC and all students transferring credit of ENG 102 to UHC
- A new tuition-free, non-credit course—ENG 201, Introduction to Writing in the Disciplines—for students who do not pass the Proficiency Test as supplemental instruction in writing before they go on to take upper-level courses in their majors
- Writing-intensive courses at the junior and senior levels in all the major disciplines

Assessment of writing at all levels is the American Association of Colleges and Universities (AAC&U) Written Communication Value Rubric (see other side). It focuses on key components of writing: context and purpose of writing, content development, conventions of the discipline, use sources and evidence (quoting and paraphrasing correctly, citing sources, avoiding plagiarism), grammar (syntax and mechanics).

Main message: students need to know how to write well in any major and in any profession. Marketing is necessary so that everyone on campus and in the University Community (students, faculty, administration, staff, Board of Trustees, alumni) will know about the QEP. When the SACSCOC Site Committee visits in March, anyone might be asked about the QEP.

- Logo contest—student design was selected (winner received an iPad), will be used on tee-shirts, folders, pens, etc.
- Video—a professional videographer will film and edit a 1-2 minute video about the QEP. There will be a launch party one week before
- Bulletin boards, fat heads