Equivalency Standards for English
(Category 1)

The equivalency standards address 1) comparability of content, 2) level of learning material indicative of academic work (sample texts), and 3) extent of writing experience (minimum number of words).

English Composition I (3 credits)

Prerequisites: Placement as determined by institution’s placement procedures or successful completion of prior developmental course

Elements Identified as Essential for Comparable Courses

English I should focus on:

- Critical thinking, reading and analytical skills
  - Reflective written response to college-level texts
  - Development of language/communication skills for future college, career and interpersonal success
- Development of significant ideas
  - Thesis or purpose
  - Logical organization
  - Unity and coherence
- Clear and precise prose
  - Standard English usage, correct punctuation, grammar and spelling
- Sense of audience and purpose
- Multi-paragraph essays
  - Variety of rhetorical patterns, emphasizing exposition and argumentation
  - Minimum 3,000 words per semester (Quality of writing is the focus, but it is important that students have adequate time on task.)
- Writing as recursive process of pre-writing, drafting, editing, and revision
- Introduction to information literacy – students should be able to judge the scholarly value of information and understand there are databases for scholarly research
- Introduction to plagiarism
  - Recognition and handling of quotation, summary, and paraphrase

Sample Texts