

What is ICaP? (Introductory Composition at Purdue)

Students at Purdue have diverse academic interests and professional goals. And although not every student at Purdue is an English major or strives to become a career writer, the ability to communicate creatively and effectively is important to all of us for several reasons:

- it provides us an outlet for sharing our ideas and an opportunity for making those ideas better; • it empowers us to understand different conventions, genres, groups, societies, and cultures; and
- it allows us to have a voice in multiple academic, civic, and personal situations.

In short, writing is a way of learning that spans all fields and disciplines. Specifically, Introductory Composition at Purdue (ICaP) is designed to help students:

- build confidence in their abilities to create, interpret, and evaluate texts in all types of media;
- develop knowledge by inspiring new ideas through writing;
- understand, evaluate, and organize their ideas;
- articulate, develop and support a topic through first-hand and archival research;
- become an effective writer who can respond credibly and accurately to a variety of composing situations.

Introductory composition courses include: ENGL 10600, First Year-Composition; ENGL 10600-I, First-Year Composition: International Sections; ENGL 10600-R, First-Year Composition: Learning Community; and ENGL 10800, Accelerated First-Year Composition: Engaging in Public Discourse.

Learning Outcomes

English 106 is the standard 4-credit hour composition course for students at Purdue. The course provides students with the opportunity to interpret and compose in both digital and print media across a variety of forms. Students engage in active learning, which includes class discussion, learning in small groups, problem solving, peer review, and digital interaction. English 106 is grounded in the idea that writing provides an outlet for sharing and developing ideas; facilitates understanding across different conventions, genres, groups, societies, and cultures; and allows for expression in multiple academic, civic, and non-academic situations. In short, writing is a way of learning that spans all fields and disciplines.

See our complete outcomes and student learning objectives.

First-Year Composition Self-Placement Guide

Most students enroll in English 10600, 10600-I, or 10800 in either Fall or Spring of their first year. Your academic advisor may have specific suggestions on which class you should take for your program. However, the following guidelines may help you in determining the appropriate composition placement for you.

English 10600 vs. English 10800

You should consider enrolling in English 10600, First-Year Composition, (4 credits) if:

- You think you would benefit from having frequent individual conferences in which you discuss your writing projects with your writing instructor;
- You would welcome the chance to develop your writing and internet research skills in a computer lab classroom;
- Establishing a solid academic foundation for college work is important to you.

You should enroll in English 10800, Accelerated First Year Composition: Engaging in Public Discourse, (3 credits) if:

- You usually try to exceed your instructor's expectations;
- You enjoy the challenge of an accelerated course;
- You have fluent control of discourse conventions such as sentence structure, punctuation, spelling, and mechanics;
- You usually understand a teacher's instructions the first time and rarely need for them to be repeated or explained;
- You will seek out help on your own—such as visiting the Writing Lab—when you need it.
- You believe you are better prepared for college work than most first-year students.

If you are considering taking ENGL 10800, please ask your academic advisor for the ENGL 10800 Program Statement that's in their Advisor's Guide. Either English 10600 or 10800 will fulfill both the Written Communication and the Information Literacy requirements on the University Common Core (UCC).

English 10600 vs. English 10600-I: Self-Placement Guide for International Students

Most international students enroll in English 10600-I## for International Students. However, the following guidelines may help you in determining the appropriate composition placement for you.

You should consider enrolling in *English 10600 for International Students* (ENGL 10600-I##) if:

- Your TOEFL (Test of English as a Foreign Language) total score is below 100 (internet-based test)
- Your TOEFL writing subscore is below 26 (internet-based test)
- English has not been the medium of instruction for most of your education prior to enrolling at Purdue
- You are in the first generation of your family to attend a college or university
- Your speaking/listening skills in English are not as strong as your writing/reading skills in English
- You can read difficult passages in English, but you are likely to need extra time and will have difficulty with a heavy reading load

You should consider enrolling in English 10600-### if:

- Your TOEFL total score is 100 or above (internet-based test)
- Your TOEFL writing subscore is 26 or above (internet-based test)
- English has been the medium of instruction for most of your education prior to enrolling at Purdue

- Your parents, sibling(s) or other immediate family members have attended a college or university
- Your speaking/listening skills in English are strong enough that you will most likely be able to understand your instructor's and classmates' classroom conversation
- You will be able to handle a heavy (many pages) reading load
- You are familiar with the informal written and spoken English often used in class by instructors and students at Purdue University

If you have questions about appropriate course placement, contact the Director of ESL Writing, Harris Bras, at the Department of English by e-mail (hbras@purdue.edu)

In the first week of class, all students in all sections of composition write sample essays, which their instructors review to confirm that the composition placement is appropriate. Instructors will notify students who should consider a change of course enrollment.

SOURCE: Student guide to ICaP <https://cla.purdue.edu/academic/english/icap/studentguide/index.html>

SCLA 10100 Transformative Texts, Critical Thinking & Communication I: Antiquity to Modernity

This course is dedicated to developing and enhancing the ability of students to write in a variety of genres, advancing their understanding of the importance of rhetorical situations and choices; analyzing and constructing arguments; gathering and evaluating sources; as well as learning how to read and evaluate print and visual media. This course places an emphasis on engaged learning through class discussion, debate, and peer review. It introduces students to foundational texts from antiquity to the birth of the modern era. Its goal is to create life-long learners, open to the world, and sensitive to other points of view.

SOURCE: SCLA Courses <https://cla.purdue.edu/academic/SCLAcourses/index.html>