

SAGES Writing Portfolio

Requirements for SAGES Students Entering in the Fall 2002 and Fall 2003

The Writing Portfolio to be evaluated after all four SAGES seminars have been completed should contain:

1. All original papers from First Seminar
2. At least one paper from each of the three University Seminars. Select from option A or B below.
 - A. If available, one 10-12 page paper from a University Seminar that involves research and demonstrates knowledge of the proper use of sources, plus any two papers of any length from other university seminars
 - B. At least 3 papers representing all three University Seminars for a total of at least 20 pages. (Note: If shorter papers are selected, the portfolio may contain more than 3 papers from the University Seminars.)

Each portfolio will be evaluated by a trained committee of faculty representing several different departments to determine if the portfolio meets the standards for "C-Competence". The current official university description of C-Competence is as follows:

A "C" grade means that the student has demonstrated that he or she can consistently produce an original paper that has, prior to revisions suggested by the instructor, the following characteristics, listed under three major criteria for evaluating compositions:

STYLE: The "C" paper is generally clear and moderately concise. Vocabulary and sentence structure are suitable for the subject matter and the intended audience.

ORGANIZATION: The "C" paper delineates a reasonably limited thesis on a subject appropriate to the assignment and develops the idea with some supporting detail, footnoted where necessary. Division into sections is logical, with fairly smooth transitions from one part to the next.

MECHANICS: The "C" paper is neat and for the most part free of errors in spelling, verb and pronoun form, agreement, sentence completion, punctuation, and capitalization.

The portfolio a student turns in is independent of the requirements of any particular course, and in the end is the student's responsibility. The student is allowed and encouraged to continue revising the portfolio after the completion of each seminar. Students may work with staff at the Writing Center.

Each student will be required to submit a CD containing their portfolio as well as one printed copy. Portfolios must be turned in at the SAGES office no later than one week after the last final exam day of the semester when the fourth SAGES seminar is taken. For example, if a student completes their last University Seminar in the spring of 2004, the portfolio will be due on Friday, May 14th. Students may receive assistance in creating their CD from the SAGES office.

If a portfolio does not meet criteria for C-Competence, the student will be expected to enroll in ENGL 180, a one-credit independent tutorial offered through the Writing Center, to continue revising the writing in the portfolio. The portfolio will then be re-evaluated. This process will be repeated until C-Competence is met.