Reading and Composition Requirement

Guidelines for Reading and Composition Courses

In order to provide a solid foundation in reading, writing and critical thinking for work in the major, the College requires two semesters of lower division work in composition—Reading and Composition (R&C), Parts A and B, in sequential order.

- All undergraduates must complete the Reading and Composition (R&C) requirement by the end of their fourth semester, or their enrollment will be blocked for the following semester.
- All courses used to satisfy Part A or B of Reading and Composition must be completed with a letter grade of C- or better.
- Students who have been admitted to Berkeley and have not completed Entry Level Writing (http://guide.berkeley.edu/undergraduate/colleges-schools/letters-science/entry-level-writing-requirement), must enroll in College Writing R1A which satisfies both Entry Level Writing and the first half of R&C. Please note: A minimum grade of C is required in COLWRIT R1A in order to satisfy Entry Level Writing.
- CLASSIC R44 (completed with a C- or higher) may be used to satisfy either Part A or Part B of R&C. This course may also be used to satisfy Arts and Literature, Historical Studies, or Social & Behavioral Sciences breadth.
- With the exception of CLASSIC R44, courses fulfilling the Reading and Composition requirement may not be applied to Seven-Course Breadth (https://ls.berkeley.edu/seven-course-breadth-requirement).

Satisfying Reading and Composition with an Exam

- Advanced Placement (AP) English Literature and Composition - Minimum Score of 4 satisfies Part A
- Advanced Placement (AP) English Literature and Composition - Minimum Score of 5 satisfies Parts A & B
- Advanced Placement (AP) English Language and Composition - Score of 4 or 5 satisfies Part A
- International Baccalaureate (IB) Higher Level (HL) English A: Literature* - Score of 5, 6, or 7 satisfies Parts A & B
- Beginning with students admitted in fall 2018 - International Baccalaureate (IB) Higher Level (HL) English A: Language and Literature* - Score of 5, 6, or 7 satisfies Parts A & B
- GCE A-Level English Literature exam for students entering Berkeley fall 2017 and PRIOR - Score of A, B, or C Parts A & B
- GCE A-Level English Literature exam for students entering Berkeley fall 2018 and BEYOND - No longer accepted for this requirement

* The IB ‘Literature and Performance’ exam, as well as the Standard Level (SL) exams in English A: Literature and English A: Language and Literature are NOT eligible for satisfaction of Reading and Composition.

Satisfying Reading and Composition with Berkeley Courses

- Successful completion with a C- grade or better of two designated Reading and Composition courses in sequence order. Review all approved below.

Satisfying Reading and Composition Requirement with Transfer Courses

- Transfer courses must be taken on a letter-graded basis and be completed with a grade of C- or better.
- For courses from California community colleges, review ASSIST (http://www.assist.org). Note: IGETC certification (http://admission.universityofcalifornia.edu/transfer/general-education-igetc/igetc) from a California community college or a letter of reciprocity from a UC campus satisfies the Reading and Composition requirement (and all other L&S breadth requirements).

Note: Transfer students may satisfy the Reading and Composition requirement with IGETC or UC Reciprocity.

Satisfies Part A of the Reading and Composition Requirement

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SPANISH R1A  Reading and Composition Through Readings from the Spanish-Speaking World  
THEATER R1A  Performance: Writing and Research  

**Satisfies Part B of the Reading and Composition Requirement**

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Satisfies Either Part A or B of the Reading
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