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 may 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.
- AGRS (formerly 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 AGRS (formerly CLASSIC) R44, courses fulfilling the Reading and Composition requirement may not be applied to Seven-Course Breadth (https://lsadvising.berkeley.edu/seven-course-breadth/).

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 Language 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 satisfies Parts A & B
- GCE A-Level English Literature exam for students entering Berkeley fall 2018 and BEYOND - No longer accepted for this requirement

Satisfies Part A of the Reading and Composition Requirement

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* 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.
- Students admitted with IGETC Certification from a California community college or UC Reciprocity have satisfied Reading and Composition. No additional coursework is required.
- Transfer applicants from campuses outside of the California Community College System should review admissions.berkeley.edu/transfer_info (http://admissions.berkeley.edu/transfer_info/) for currently articulated courses from non-CCC institutions. If the institution is not listed on the website, once an admission application is filed, the admissions office will facilitate a review of prospective courses. Courses that are at least 3 semester units or 4-5 quarter units in value, and focus on instruction on English composition are eligible for consideration.
- Students can complete a pre-approved Reading and Composition course at a California Community College. Pre-approved courses can be found on ASSIST (http://www.assist.org/web-assist/welcome.html). Refer to the L&S Transfer Coursework page (https://lsadvising.berkeley.edu/progress-planning/transfer-credit/) for instructions on how to take transfer credit as an L&S student before enrolling at a California Community College.
ENGLISH R1AN First-Year Reading and Composition
FILM R1A The Craft of Writing - Film Focus
FRENCH R1A English Composition in Connection with the Reading of Literature
GERMAN R5A Reading and Composition
HUM R1A Global Humanities: From California to the Global
ITALIAN R5A Reading and Composition
LEGALST R1A Reading and Composition in Connection with the Law as a Social Institution
MELOIS R1A Reading and Composition in Middle Eastern Languages and Cultures
NATAMST R1A Native American Studies Reading and Composition
RHETOR R1A The Craft of Writing
SASIAN R5A Great Books of India
SCANDIN R5A Reading and Composition
SEASIAN R5A Self, Representation, and Nation
SLAVIC R5A Reading and Composition
SPANISH R1A Reading and Composition Through Readings from the Spanish-Speaking World
THEATER R1A Performance: Writing and Research
XCOLWRI R1A Accelerated Reading and Composition
XCOMLIT R1A English Composition in Connection with the Reading of World Literature
XENELIS R1A Reading and Composition
XFILM R1A The Craft of Writing
XRHETOR R1A The Craft of Writing
XSEASIA R5A Self, Representation, and Nation

Satisfies Part B of the Reading and Composition Requirement

Please scroll down to see complete list of courses.

AFRICAM R1B Freshman Composition
AHMA R1B Reading and Composition on Topics in Ancient History and Mediterranean Archaeology
ANTHRO R5B Reading and Composition in Anthropology
ASAMST R2B Reading and Composition
CELTIC R1B Voices of the Celtic World
CHICANO R1B Reading and Composition
COLWRT R4B Reading, Composition, and Research
COM LIT R1B English Composition in Connection with the Reading of World Literature
COM LIT N1B English Composition in Connection with the Reading of World Literature
COM LIT R2B English Composition in Connection with Reading of World and French Literature
COM LIT R3B English Composition in Connection with Reading of World and Hispanic Literature
EA LANG R1B Reading and Composition on topics in East Asian Humanities
ENGLISH R1B Reading and Composition

Satisfies Either Part A or B of the Reading and Composition Requirement

AGRS R44 Classics of the Ancient Mediterranean World