

THE WIC REQUIREMENT

All baccalaureate degrees at OSU must include a Writing Intensive Course. Since the International Degree is a second baccalaureate, each ID student must complete a second WIC within the ID major. Your completion of a senior thesis and a thesis log will satisfy OSU's WIC requirement by meeting the following standards.

REQUIREMENTS OF WIC COURSES

1. WIC courses shall use student writing as a significant approach to learning.

- Students are given regular and frequent opportunities to write, included both graded and ungraded writing.
In keeping with this requirement, completion of the ID thesis requirement will include multiple drafts and keeping a thesis log. The exact content of the thesis log will vary. You will meet with your advisor frequently, and should establish the frequency of meetings in your early discussions. Many students and advisors have found it helpful to meet weekly or biweekly during the final term.
- At least one paper should address a controversial question and integrate information from more than one source.
The ID Program requires a single paper (the thesis) which must meet the above requirements. The ID thesis places your major in an international context, often in a comparative fashion, and thus requires development of an argument and consideration of more than one perspective. The nature of most ID topics ensures that the finished paper exceeds minimum WIC standards.
- Students will write at least 5000 words (including drafts, in-class writing, informal papers and polished papers); 2000 words of this total should be in polished papers which students have revised after receiving feedback and criticism.

ID theses range in length from 25 pages long (typed, double-spaced) to much longer. They require multiple drafts, and completing ID requirements usually exceeds minimum standards for the WIC. Some ID theses, however, have a non-verbal focus such as photography, music or apparel design. Even projects like these must include a minimum of 8-10 pages of formal writing to place the project in the appropriate historical/cultural context by incorporating and documenting outside sources.

2. WIC classes shall base a significant part of the grade on evaluation of writing.

The ID WIC grade will be based on your advisor's assessment of your written project or thesis.

3. WIC classes shall focus on content relating to major disciplines and be taught by knowledgeable faculty in that discipline.

The advisor you select from your major will serve as your WIC instructor. Since not all faculty regularly teach a WIC course, some advisors may be unfamiliar with WIC requirements. In this case, it is your responsibility to make your advisor aware of this requirement. This explanation, the Advisor Information Sheet, and the Passport to the International Degree will serve as references. Advisors may also contact ID Program staff as questions arise.

4. WIC classes shall discuss writing issues pertinent to the discipline as issues apply both academically and professionally.

A WIC course includes discussion of how writing is used by graduates/professionals in a discipline. Thus, a WIC in engineering includes discussion on writing done by working engineers and what makes that writing effective or convincing. As you work with your thesis advisor, you will consider issues such as structure of your thesis, appropriate writing style, and citation format.

5. WIC classes shall be upper division.

Usually, you will receive 4-6 credits for your thesis within your major. You should register for Thesis (403) which is an upper division course number.

Please leave one copy with your advisor and return a copy signed by your advisor to the ID Program office.

I have reviewed this description of the International Degree's WIC requirement, and the thesis advisor's role in

- Meeting regularly with advisee to discuss thesis progress and drafts
- Verifying that advisee maintains thesis log
- Reviewing thesis drafts (including style, format, effective use of multiple sources, and development of an argument)
- Approving final draft of thesis and verifying that thesis log has been maintained
- Assigning final grade for any thesis credits the student has taken

Advisor signature/date: _____