

Writing Across the Curriculum Core Principles¹

1. Language is at the center of the academic curriculum: reading, writing, talking, and listening are the modes through which people think and learn.
2. The more people write, the better they learn: writing is the most powerful use of language for developing sustained critical thought; it helps people to visualize thought and therefore to modify, extend, develop, or criticize it.
3. The more students write, the more active they become in creating their own education: writing frequently, for themselves as well as their instructors, helps students discover, rehearse, express, and defend their own ideas.
4. Learning to write well means learning to rewrite often: to improve their writing, students must write regularly about things that matter for audiences that care.
5. College teachers are the primary agents of language instruction in the curriculum: their beliefs, knowledge, methods, and attitudes about language largely determine what schools do and stand for—and what their students stand for and can do.

¹ Fulwiler, T. (1987). Writing across the curriculum. ADE Bulletin, 88, 35-40.

