



Black Hills State University Placement Requirements

For information regarding the placement tests, please visit www.BHSU.edu/WritingCenter

READING PLACEMENT

- Students who score a 17 or below in reading on the ACT and who have a 2.99 or lower HS GPA will be placed into READ 041.
- Students who score a 17 or below in reading on the ACT but who have a 3.0 or higher HS GPA may automatically sit for the COMPASS exam.
 - A COMPASS score of 78 or above may result in an exemption from READ 041.
 - A COMPASS score of 77 or below will result in placement in READ 041.
 - Students wishing to challenge placement after the COMPASS test may sit for an exam with Instructor Mary Cooper or another designated faculty member.
- A student with GED credentials or a student whose HS graduation date is five or more years from his/her semester of placement should automatically sit for the COMPASS; those wishing to challenge placement after this step may meet with Instructor Cooper.
- A transfer student will be placed according to the measures above, unless his/her HS graduation date was five or more years from the placement semester. READ 041 is automatically waived if the student has satisfactorily completed any college level composition class that is verified by an official transcript.

READ 041: READING FOR COLLEGE SUCCESS

Students who score 1-17 on the ACT or 1-77 on the COMPASS exam place in READ 041. Students who have a 3.0 high school GPA in addition to this score may challenge this placement if they so wish.

Activities

READ 041 provides students with reading strategies necessary for making the transition to collegiate level reading. The course will present students with multiple strategies to promote comprehension skills, develop vocabulary, and enhance metacognition to become strategic readers.

ENGLISH PLACEMENT

- Students who score a 17 or below in English on the ACT or a 73 or below in English on the COMPASS, and who have a 2.99 or lower HS GPA, will be placed into CoRE English.
- Students who score a 17 or below in English on the ACT or a 73 or below in English on the COMPASS, but who have a 3.0 or higher HS GPA, will automatically sit for an English essay placement exam to be evaluated by the Director of the Writing Assistance Center or another designated university representative.
- A student with GED credentials or a student whose HS graduation date is five or more years from his/her semester of placement should automatically sit for a placement exam if his/her ACT or COMPASS scores are 17 or below or 73 or below, respectively.
- A transfer student will be placed based on his/her ACT *or* Compass scores + HS GPA, unless said transfer student's HS graduation date was five or more years from the placement semester. If a transfer student has satisfactorily completed an introductory level composition course determined to be equivalent to BHSU's ENGL 101, they will be placed in ENGL 201.

CoRE English: ENGL 101C

Students who score 1-17 on the ACT or 1-73 on the COMPASS exam place in CoRE English. Students who have a 3.0 high school GPA in addition to this score may challenge this placement if they so wish.

CoRE English is a 5-credit, co-requisite course that combines the remedial instruction of English 032 with the writing instruction of English 101. Designed as an intensive writing lab and hybrid course, students will meet for three hours of classroom instruction and two credits of supplemental work outside of the classroom each week. Student writers will receive instruction focusing on higher level concerns (thesis, organization, and support) and lower level concerns (sentence-level and grammatical issues), while fulfilling the requirements of Composition I to produce eighteen pages of finished text written on various subjects. Students will draft, revise, and edit expository essays in a variety of rhetorical modes, such as description, definition, comparison and contrast, analogies, examples and illustrations, texts relating to or examining cause and effect, classification and division, evaluation, and argumentation. The rhetorical strategies will be determined by the instructor. CoRE English fulfills developmental and credit-bearing requirements and prepares students for Composition II.

Composition I: ENGL 101

Students who score 18-36 on the ACT or 74-100 on the COMPASS exam are placed in Composition I. In Composition I (ENGL 101), student writers produce eighteen pages of finished text written on various subjects. Students draft, revise, and edit expository essays in a variety of rhetorical modes, such as description, definition, comparison and contrast, analogies, examples and illustrations, texts relating to or examining cause and effect, classification and division, evaluation, and argumentation. The rhetorical strategies will be determined by the instructor.

The final paper in both classes is timed and written in a classroom—the Common Final (fall semester). All students taking Composition I respond to a writing prompt presented to them on that day; however, students are provided several sources (articles, statistics, on-line sources) prior to the final. Writers are expected to examine these sources and use them to strengthen their texts. This argumentative essay launches the composition student into their second composition course (ENGL 201).--Revised March 2013