



Fulfilling the College Writing Requirement

The First-Year Writing Program

English 1, 2, 3, and 4 prepare students for the writing they will do in other courses at Tufts. The First-Year Writing Program emphasizes qualities common to successful writing in all disciplines. These include: a clear thesis; a well-organized and developing argument; well-illustrated points; and thoughtful, lively prose. Small classes offer the opportunity for close, personal attention and an atmosphere of collaborative learning.

Attendance Policy

Students are required to attend the first two class meetings of English 1 and 2 to retain their seat in the class. In case of an emergency, students must contact the instructor beforehand for permission to miss class. If they fail to do so, they and their advisor will be notified and their places will be filled from the waiting list.

General Notices

- For additional information about the writing requirement, please see The Bulletin of Tufts University, which can be found online at <http://ase.tufts.edu/bulletin/>.
- English 1, 2, and 4 must be taken for a letter grade in order to fulfill the writing requirement. English 3 is pass-fail.

Course Descriptions

The course descriptions below have been significantly abbreviated. For the complete text, as well as descriptions of English 2 topics, please go to the English Department website (<http://ase.tufts.edu/english/>).

English 1: Expository Writing

English 1 fulfills the first half of the College Writing Requirement for Liberal Arts students. English 1 explores the principles of effective written communication and provides intensive practice in writing various types of expository prose. English 1 is offered both semesters, with substantially fewer sections in the spring.

English 2: First-Year Writing Seminars

English 2 fulfills the second half of the College Writing Requirement for Liberal Arts students. English 2 offers students the opportunity to choose among several seminar topics, all of which are approached in an interdisciplinary way. English 2 is offered both semesters, with substantially fewer sections in the fall. (See “English 2 Topic Descriptions” online for seminar details.)

English 3: Reading, Writing, Research

English 3 fulfills the first half of the College Writing Requirement for Liberal Arts students. Like English 1, English 3 explores the principles of effective communication and provides intensive practice in writing various types of expository prose. Designed for international students and for students who speak English as an additional language, English 3 is offered in the fall semester; pass/fail.

English 4: Writing Seminars

English 4 fulfills the second half of the College Writing Requirement for Liberal Arts students. As in English 2, the seminar topics of English 4 are approached in an interdisciplinary way. Designed for international students and for students who speak English as an additional language, English 4 is offered in the spring semester; prerequisites are English 1 or 3.

Courses Approved as English 2 Alternatives

Liberal Arts students may take “Philosophy 1: Introduction to Philosophy” in place of English 2. This course must be taken at Tufts. From time to time other Tufts courses may be approved as English 2 Alternatives. This information will be available from the English Department. Alternative courses used to fulfill the writing requirement must be taken for a letter grade. Students may not count the course as English 2 if taken before or at the same time as English 1 (or English 3).

School of Arts and Sciences
Writing Requirements

Liberal Arts students are required to take two semesters of college writing in order to graduate. Students should complete this requirement in their first year except under extraordinary circumstance. Most students do so by taking English 1 (or English 3) in the first semester and English 2 (or English 4) in the second semester, when the majority of such classes are offered.

Exemptions & Pre-Matriculation Credits

Liberal Arts students may fulfill one or both parts of the writing requirement if they have taken certain standardized tests and met the criteria in the following table. Some standardized tests will also grant a pre-matriculation credit (listed in the table as a “Tufts credit”). Guidelines governing pre-matriculation credits are outlined in the Tufts Bulletin.

School of Arts and Sciences
Exemptions and Pre-Matriculation Credits

AP English Language & Composition and/or Literature <i>(If both test are taken, only one credit is awarded)</i>	
Score of 4	Enroll in English 2 Equivalent to English 1; one Tufts credit
Score of 5	Writing requirement is complete Equivalent to English 2; one Tufts credit Exempt from English 1
SAT Classes of 2021 and beyond	
For classes matriculating in fall 2017 and after the SAT does not provide exemption from the writing requirement	
British A-Level	
Grade of B	Enroll in English 2 Equivalent to English 1; one Tufts credit
Grade of A	Writing requirement is complete Equivalent to English 2; one Tufts credit Exempt from English 1
Higher Level International Baccalaureate	
Score of 6	Enroll in English 2 Equivalent to English 1; one Tufts credit
Score of 7	Writing requirement is complete Equivalent to English 2; one Tufts credit Exempt from English 1
Subsidiary Level International Baccalaureate	
Score of 7	Enroll in English 2 Equivalent to English 1; one Tufts credit
NO OTHER EXEMPTIONS WILL BE GIVEN	

It is the student's responsibility to ensure that the results of standardized tests are sent to Tufts and appear on their transcript.

Complete First-Year Writing Program Policies:

<http://ase.tufts.edu/english/firstyear/>

Course descriptions and schedules:

<http://ase.tufts.edu/english/courses/>