

Graduate Writing Assessment Requirement (GWAR)

The Graduate Writing Assessment Requirement (GWAR) (FAM 841.97) must be satisfied before a graduate student is awarded a master's or doctoral degree. Demonstrated competency in writing skills is a California State University requirement. The graduate program shall determine the manner by which a student satisfies the GWAR by requiring one of the following options:

- a. The student shall take an existing 306 course or other upper division writing course and attain a grade of B or better; or
- b. The student shall achieve an acceptable standardized test score, such as the Analytical Writing subtest of the Graduate Management Admissions Test (GMAT) or the Graduate Record Examination (GRE), as determined by the program; or
- c. The student shall complete a program-specific writing intensive course with a grade no lower than a B-; or
- d. The student shall submit a paper(s) that receive(s) a passing score as evaluated in the following four areas: A) Integration/Critical Analysis, B) Content/Organization, C) Style/Format, and D) Grammar/Usage; or
- e. The student shall complete a writing intensive thesis or project, or a comprehensive exam.

Contact the Office of the Dean of Graduate Studies at (909) 537-5058 for questions about the graduate writing requirement as it relates to post-baccalaureate students.