



**Associate Provost for
Undergraduate Education**
*100 Funkhouser Building
Lexington, Kentucky 40506-0054
(859) 257-5448
Fax: (859) 323-1932;
www.uky.edu/UGS/*

February 23, 2004

MEMORANDUM

TO: Senate Council

FROM: Phil Kraemer, Associate Provost

SUBJECT: Writing Requirement Proposal

The attached proposal to change the University undergraduate writing requirement represents the culmination of a process that began several years ago. In the process of reviewing general education requirements at other universities, the USP Committee discovered that our writing requirement is conspicuously different from most of UK's benchmarks. The prominent difference is that UK does not extend the writing requirement beyond the first year. With the support of the USP Committee, I established an ad hoc faculty committee to exam this issue. The Committee submitted a proposal that recommended a two-tiered writing requirement. The proposal was endorsed by the USP Committee in 2003. This proposal was then presented to the University Senate in spring of 2003 for discussion only. Based on feedback from that discussion, the proposal was revised to address several issues critical to successful implementation. The revised proposal (see attached) was endorsed by the faculty in the Department of English, the Academic Council of the College of Arts and Sciences, and the 2003-2004 USP Committee. It is also strongly supported by the Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, and the Undergraduate Council has approved the course changes necessary to implement the new requirement. The USP Committee recommends that the proposed change in the writing requirement be adopted for implementation fall 2004. Janet Eldred, author of the proposal, and I are available to meet with the Senate Council to discuss the merits and implications of what we believe to be a very positive improvement in the undergraduate curriculum.