

FOR STUDENTS PLACED IN EBS 033 (Directed Studies in Writing)

Dear Student,

Your score on the placement test indicates that you are required to take English Basic Skills (EBS) 033, a 2 non-degree-credit supplemental course to English Composition 1 (WRT 101). This course meets for three hours per week in addition to the three hours per week you will spend in your WRT 101 class. You must take the course during your first semester at the college, and you must take it during the same semester you are enrolled in WRT 101. You did well on the placement test, but your score indicates that you will benefit from reinforcement of skills while you take your WRT 101 class.

IMPORTANT FACTS ABOUT THIS PLACEMENT

FACT: Successfully completing the EBS 033 course will give you 2 “non-degree” credits. This means that the EBS 033 course DOES count in your grade point average (GPA) and it does count toward full-time status for financial aid, but it does NOT count in the total number of credits you need for graduation. The 3 credits you earn in your WRT 101 course WILL count in your GPA and your credits toward graduation.

FACT: You have ONE opportunity to take a “challenge test” to change your placement in this course.

FACT: Both your WRT 101 class and your EBS 033 class will be taught by the same professor. You must take both classes at the same time DURING YOUR FIRST SEMESTER at the college.

FACT: When you register, your two courses will match because they are co-requisites. Make sure the section numbers for your WRT 101 and EBS 033 classes are aligned.

EXAMPLE: WRT 101-008A1 and EBS 033-008A1 (taken as co-requisites)

For further information, please contact Professor Don Reilly, coordinator of EBS 033, at 201-447-5396 or dreilly@bergen.edu.

Developmental English (EBS) At Bergen Community College

What is the purpose of the Developmental English Program?

The Developmental English Program provides the opportunity for students to learn the skills needed to be successful in college. It helps students improve reading, writing and critical thinking skills. It also teaches academic survival skills such as how to study, how to take tests, how to take notes, how to use the library, and how to use computers. Research shows that students who take EBS courses are more likely to pass English Composition I than students who were not enrolled in EBS.

Who administers the Developmental English program?

Students with questions about Developmental English should contact Professor Eileen Fitzgerald, Coordinator of EBS, in person in A-333D or by email at efitzgerald@bergen.edu. See www.bergen.edu/ebc for more information about the program.

How do students get into the Developmental English Program?

Students are required to take EBS courses because of scores earned on their placement test. As a result of the scores, students are placed in one of the four levels of EBS courses. Students who place into EBS courses must enroll in them their first semester and must take them continuously until they exit the program. Other college courses may be taken at the same time as EBS courses, but the total number of credits students can take each semester is limited to ensure student success.

Can students challenge their placement in the Developmental English Program?

Students who think their placement test scores do not reflect their ability are permitted to take a challenge test before registering for courses. In addition, students who enroll in EBS courses are given a second screening in the first week of classes and may be given permission by their professors to challenge their EBS placement.

See the "Progression to WRT 101" Chart to understand the different levels of EBS courses.