

FOR STUDENTS PLACED IN EBS 033

Directed Studies in Writing II

Dear Student,

Your score on the Accuplacer Test was between 235 and 239, indicating that you are required to take English Basic Skills (EBS) 033, a 2-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 a little 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), 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)

Progression to WRT 101 (Composition 1) Based on Placement Scores

Score of
0 - 199

EBS 011
(5 cr.)

EBS 012
(5 cr.)

WRT 101
(3 cr.)

Score of
200 - 234

EBS 021
(5 cr.)

WRT 101
(3 cr.)

Score of
235 - 239

WRT 101
(3 cr.)

+

EBS 033
(2 cr. taken as co-
requisite w/ WRT 101)

Score of
240 - 249

WRT 101
(3 cr.)

+

EBS 041
(1 cr. taken as co-
requisite w/ WRT 101)

Score of
250 - 360

WRT 101
(3 cr.)

English Basic Skills (EBS) at Bergen Community College

What is the purpose of the EBS Program?

The EBS 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, and 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 EBS program?

Students with questions about EBS should contact: Dr. Leigh Jonaitis, EBS Department Chair, in person in A-333D or by phone (201) 447-7168. See www.bergen.edu/ebs for more information about the program.

How do students get into the EBS Program?

Students are required to take EBS courses because of scores earned on the Accuplacer 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 are limited each semester to ensure student success.

Can students challenge their placement in the EBS 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.