

Writing Competencies for the Sociology Major

PLU Department of Sociology and Social Work

	Year One SOCI 101	Year Two SOCI 226, 232, 240, 287, 296, STAT 233	Year Three SOCI 330, 332, 336, 387, 391, 394	Year Four SOCI 413, 440, 495*, 496, 499
	<i>In courses at the 100-level, students will:</i>	<i>In courses at the 200-level, students will:</i>	<i>In courses at the 300-level, students will:</i>	<i>In courses at the 400-level, students will:</i>
Mechanics/ Arrangement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Be introduced to the basics of ASA Style ● Use generalizing language (qualifiers) ● Use inclusive language ● Understand the difference between formal and informal language ● Introduce and punctuate quotations appropriately ● Understand when to use passive and active voice ● Use appropriate capitalization 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Continue to use ASA Style ● Develop a sense of appropriate audience 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Demonstrate competency in using ASA Style ● Avoid wordiness and work towards concision in their writing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Master ASA Style ● Demonstrate mastery of the skills introduced at earlier levels
Argument	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Demonstrate effective self-reflection and examine their own biases ● Develop a clear thesis or claim ● Understand the sociological relevance of their writing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Articulate a clear purpose ● Structure their argument appropriately ● Begin to formulate hypotheses and design research ● Situate their research in the literature ● Effectively evaluate and summarize sources ● Demonstrate logical organization (Linear argument) ● Demonstrate the sociological relevance of their writing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Demonstrate appropriate narrowness of focus ● Effectively apply course content ● Demonstrate depth of preparatory research ● Fairly present others' perspectives ● Use examples appropriately and effectively 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Learn to write effective introductions and conclusions ● Demonstrate mastery of the skills introduced at earlier levels

Notes:

1. At all levels, students will learn to respond to comments and feedback in revising their work, as appropriate.
2. Students in all courses will be exposed to the definition of and rationale for academic integrity in Sociology. They will be expected to conform to all aspects of PLU's academic integrity policy. For more information about this policy, see pages 2 – 7 of the Student Code of Conduct.

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