

Writing PLUS

supporting student success

The First-Year Writing Program
Boise State University

supporting student success: 3 initiatives

Innovative Placement: **The Write Class**

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Challenging Curriculum: **English 101+**

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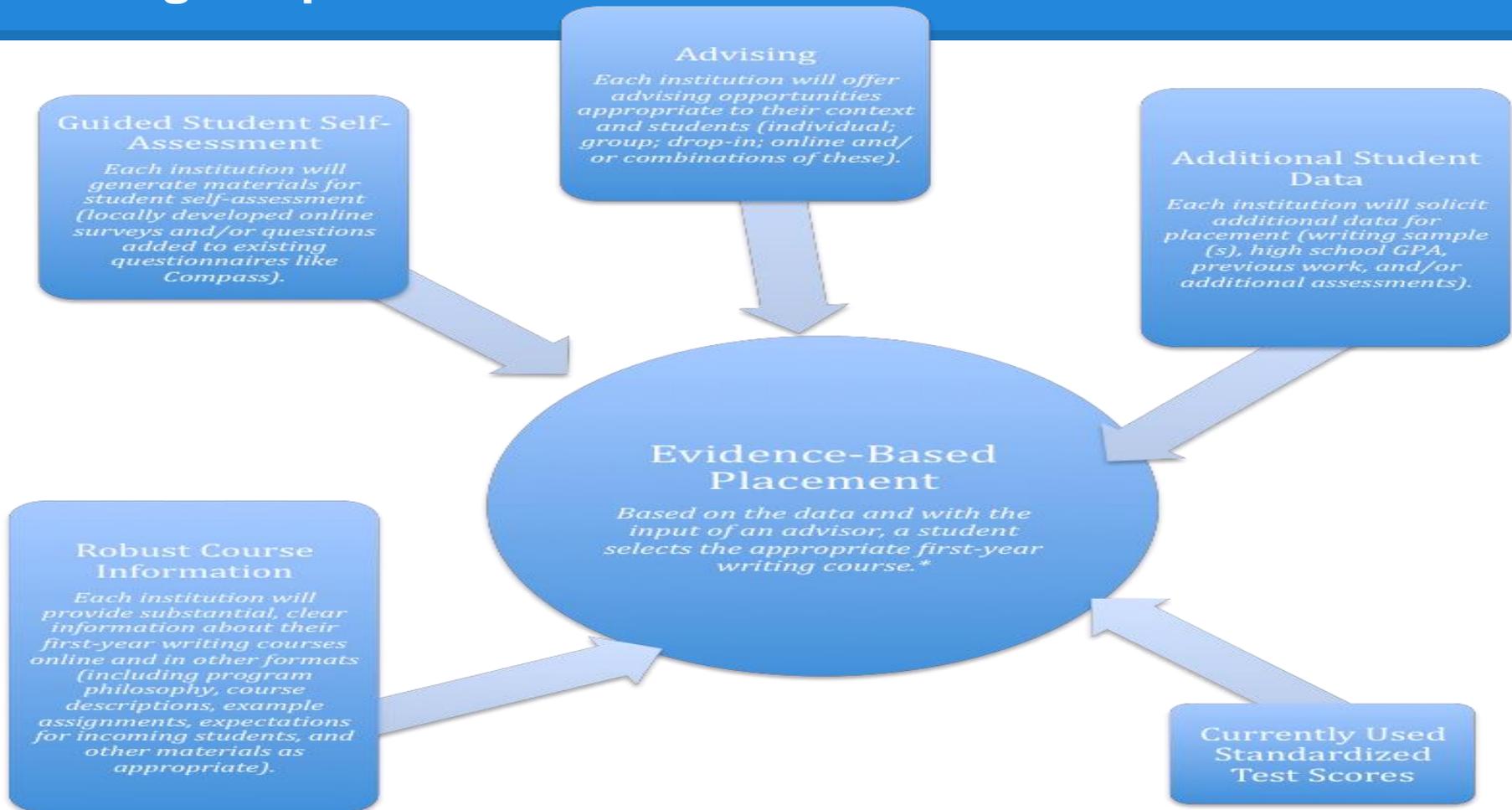
Proactive Support across first-year writing:
PLUS Project for repeating students

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Increased student success, increased retention, and reduced remediation

Statewide framework for placement in first-year writing (2008; 2010)

english placement task force



Goal 1: Enhance Student Success Through Innovative, Flexible Placement

The Write Class: an online, state-of-the-art placement process for first-year writing courses uses multiple measures:

- self-assessments
- high school G.P.A
- standardized test scores
- course information
- portfolio/writing samples
- advising

Innovative, Flexible Placement: The Write Class at Boise State

Innovative: The Write Class is the **first** placement process in the country to integrate several features of other successful, research-based placement approaches.

Flexible: The Write Class is online and is one of the first post-admissions processes for students. It is more than placement; it's an initial conversation about university expectations and culture.

The Write Class at Boise State



BOISE STATE UNIVERSITY

Welcome to The Write Class!

We're glad you're here. All incoming students are required to complete this online writing course placement process in preparation for course registration at orientation.

The Write Class includes placement information for all students. It includes information about test scores or other data that might be applicable in your particular case.

What you'll need to complete this process:

- 20-30 minutes
- your current overall high school G.P.A.
- your ACT English or SAT Critical Reading Scores (if completed within the past five years)

If applicable:

- AP Language and Composition scores (If you haven't received your test scores yet, you may still complete The Write Class.)
- information on Engl 101 and/or 102 taken as Concurrent Enrollment or at another institution.

If you have any questions at any point in the process, do not hesitate to contact program administrators at thewriteclass@boisestate.edu.

To continue, log in below using your first name, last name, and date of birth.

First Name:

The Write Class at Boise State

Results:

 Sign out

You have completed The Write Course process!

Your results are noted below. You are now ready to attend your Broncoventure orientation session. TO ENSURE YOUR COURSE SELECTION DURING ORIENTATION, PLEASE PRINT THIS SCREEN AND BRING IT WITH YOU TO YOUR BRONCOVENTURE SESSION.

Name: **FAKE HEIDI3 STUDENT1** (DOB: March 01, 2000)

Your English course placement is: **English 101**, "Introduction to College Writing and Reading." At orientation, you will be able to register for any section of English 101. Additionally, there are a few specific options that you can consider:

- English 101 students are eligible to enroll in English 101+, which combines one section of English 101 with a one-credit Writer's Studio course. If you are interested in some additional support for English 101, please search for "101P" in Broncoweb. See advisors at orientation for further information.
- Each semester, we offer several sections of "cross-cultural" first-year writing courses. These courses offer a wonderful opportunity for rich interactions among students from the United States and many other nations. For further information on cross-cultural courses, please look at "Cross-cultural courses". See advisors at orientation for further information.

PRINT SCREEN

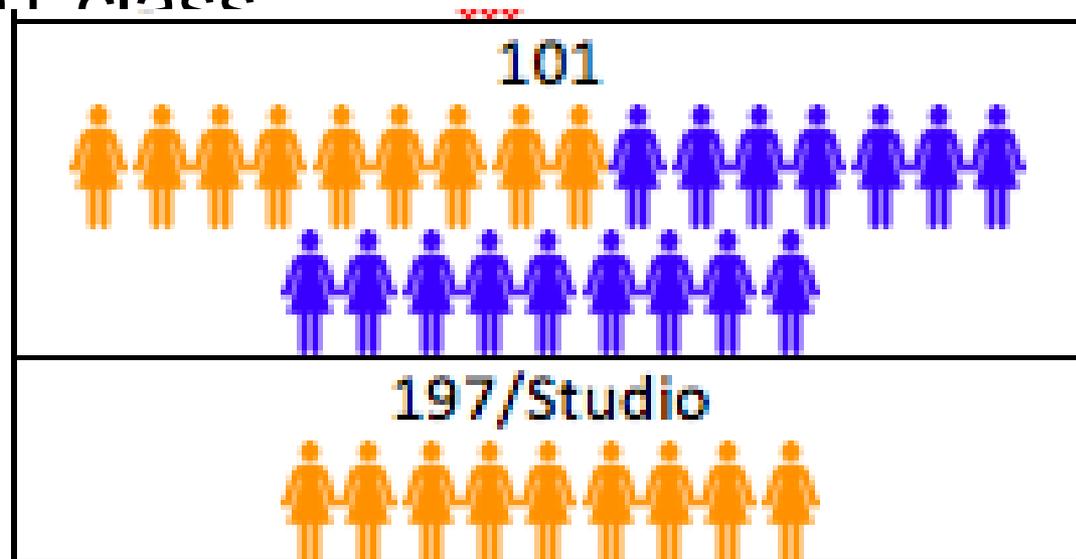
The Write Class key performance indicator

- Student satisfaction surveys
- Institutional research on retention, student success, and performance

Goal 2: Enhance student success through supportive, challenging curriculum

English 101+ is:

- a regular section of 101 and
- a one-credit writing studio course, taught by their 101 instructor, with up to 9 peers from their 101 class



101+ at Boise State

Previous model:

semester 1	semester 2	semester 3	first-year writing:
ENGL 90 3 cr (pre-college)	ENGL 101 3 cr	ENGL 102 3 cr	3 semesters 9 credits 6 college-level

Current model (as of spring 2013):

semester 1	semester 2	first-year writing
ENGL 101 3 cr ENGL 197 1 cr	ENGL 102	2 semesters 7 credits all college-level

101+ immediate benefits

- Removes barrier to collegiate-level coursework students
- Places students into a course with a stronger range of writers – both helpful *and* gives confidence
- Provides in-course support (rather than delaying admission into the college-level course)
- Removes stigma of taking a pre-college course
- Removes required student fee for a “pre-college” writing course
- Transforms support into a positive and proactive experience
- Lowers overall cost to students (Example: in-state, full-time student cost lowered by \$422.)

101+ Performance Indicator

Early indications? It seems great, but we want more:

- A full assessment of 101+ student work (June 2013, led by Tiffany Hitesman and Lana Kuchta);
- Ongoing teacher-research (101+ Inquiry Group, led by Karen Uehling and Tiffany Hitesman);
- Comparison of student cohorts from 2007-2012 to the 2013-2014 cohort. Goal: 101+ students retained at higher level than previous Engl 90 students; complete 102 as successfully as comparison cohort (CCA progress metric 3)

integrating support for students

****innovative, flexible placement integrating multiple measures (The Write Class)**

AND

****structural changes to support for writers, including**

- different course arrangement (Engl 101+)
- other kinds of low-stakes support for students in gateway courses (PI US)