

## **Rhetoric and Composition Mission Statement**

The Rhetoric and Composition program at Southwestern Illinois College actively pursues initiatives that uphold the dignity and worth of all people, that promote lifelong learning, that enhance quality of life, that promote educational excellence, and that create active partnerships with students and the community. Among these initiatives, the writing program continually engages in ongoing methods of self and program assessment. The program's guiding purpose is a shared commitment to help students develop strategies for writing for a variety of purposes and audiences.

### **Educational Goals**

Students who successfully complete the writing sequence of courses will be able to:

- write texts appropriate for a variety of general and specific audiences
- demonstrate more distinct voices as writers, and vary their voices to fit different writing situations.
- build papers around a central controlling idea, supported by concrete details, examples, and reasoning.
- critically evaluate their own work and the work of others.
- incorporate ideas and quotations from other sources into their papers; and demonstrate, in writing, an understanding of sources (using techniques like summarizing and paraphrasing)
- identify and eliminate, from their finished papers, errors in standard edited English.

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