Writing Intensive Policy for The School of Humanities and Global Studies
(approved by HGS Unit Council April 24, 2019)

Rationale
Writing Intensive (WI) courses in The School of Humanities and Global Studies (HGS) reflect the values and curricular needs of the disciplines housed within the school. Our Writing Intensive courses encourage students to hone their mastery of the mechanics of writing, including syntax, grammar, punctuation, and spelling. As writers themselves, HGS faculty know the skills of successful writers include but stretch well beyond such matters as structure, tone, and mechanics.

Writing Intensive courses in The School of Humanities and Global Studies also reflect the best practices of the disciplines the school represents. Specifically, HGS faculty practice the conventions of their disciplines and share that knowledge with their students. More broadly, HGS values writing for inquiry, learning, thinking, and communicating. As scholars and educators, we understand the connections between critical thinking, critical reading, and writing. We view writing as an open process. The best writers rethink and revise their work; in this manner, effective writers integrate their own ideas with those of others.

Successful writers know it takes multiple drafts to create and complete sophisticated texts and are therefore able to critique not only others’ writing, but their own as well. The best writing in our fields is realized through the process of prewriting, writing, and revision. More than anything else, Writing Intensive courses in The School of Humanities and Global Studies emphasize this writing process.

Requirements of Writing Intensive courses in The School of Humanities and Global Studies:
1. 100/200 level: Writing Intensive courses shall have a minimum page count of 15 pages.
2. 300/400 level: Writing Intensive courses shall have a minimum page count of 20 pages.
3. At all levels, page count shall be spread over at least three writing assignments.
4. At all levels, students will have opportunities for revision in response to instructor feedback.
5. At all levels, students will be introduced to documentation forms appropriate to the discipline delivering the WI course.