

Implementing LiveText in GS Courses Highlights for 2015-16

General Studies Student Learning Outcomes:

Communication: Upon completion of the General Studies Program at WLU, students will be able to communicate effectively with clarity, coherence, and persuasiveness.

Problem Solving: Upon completion of the General Studies Program at WLU, students will be able to apply appropriate concepts and methods to analyze, evaluate, and interpret problems before implementing a suitable strategy.

Cultural Awareness: Upon completion of the General Studies Program at WLU, students will have a richer understanding of the human condition through investigation, appreciation, and evaluation of the aesthetic, historical, philosophical and literary dimensions of a variety of cultures.

Additional information about rubrics, GSAC committee members, and the GS mission statement are available on the [university webpage](#).

This is the second year of university-wide general studies (GS) assessment using LiveText. During the first year of implementation, data collection was piloted in all sections of ENG 101 and ENG 102. The purpose of this document is to provide clarity and assist you in speaking knowledgeably with fellow faculty, students, and parents about the implementation plan. Please feel free to send additional questions on general studies assessment to Dr. Traci Tuttle (ttuttle@westliberty.edu) or any GSAC committee member. LiveText questions should be directed to Paula Tomasiak (ptomasik@westliberty.edu).

Who needs to be using LiveText?

- ALL courses listed as a part of the general studies curriculum in the 2015-16 university catalog* MUST be utilizing LiveText to collect assessment results on at LEAST one of the objectives (listed to the left).

*GSAC approved a motion to leave the use of LiveText in courses that are no longer a part of General Studies (as of the Fall 2015) catalog to the discretion of the instructor.

How do I access the rubrics?

- Each GS course SHOULD have a writing assignment (communication), oral communication assignment (communication), critical thinking assignment (problem solving), and global awareness assignment (cultural awareness) pre-loaded into their course by the end of September.
 - Faculty should EDIT the assignment they wish to use.
 - Faculty may DELETE the assignments that are irrelevant to their courses.
 - Existing assignments MAY be used if they can be ASSESSED by one of the included rubrics.
 - Faculty should NOT use self-created rubrics for GS data collection, but may elect to create and use LiveText for their own or programmatic data collection IN ADDITION to collecting GS data.
 - Please contact Paula if you are missing the assignments or wish to have them loaded into a course not in the GS curriculum.
- All GS rubrics will be available as templates when creating a new document.

Why are we using a system that costs an additional fee?

- The use of LiveText eases the burden of data, collection, aggregation, and analysis with a limited staff devoted to university assessment.
- Students will benefit from continuous improvement of course and programmatic revisions based on analysis of data by the faculty, chairs, deans, and/or GSAC.
- Students are also able to review ALL previous submissions, returned comments and rubrics, and use it for their own personal reflective practice.
- The BOG denied the request to include the fee as a part of the student tuition.

Do all students need LiveText the first week of classes?

- Purchasing LiveText IS required for all students** enrolled in GS courses.
- The "cut-off" date for purchase is left up to the instructor and/or department/program of the course. The GSAC recommends a minimum cut-off date of at LEAST a week prior to the assessment being submitted to the LiveText system. There are typically a few students who have difficulty registering and this allows time for them to get assistance.

**GSAC approved a motion to leave the purchase of LiveText for students graduating in December 2015 or May 2016 to the discretion of the instructor of general studies courses.

Who is responsible for making sure this is done correctly?

- It is the responsibility of the instructor to ensure they understand how to use LiveText for data collection, or contact the office of Institutional Research & Assessment or the GSAC for support if necessary.
- The GSAC and Office of IR&A will be offering video, print, and live tutorials, work sessions, and support throughout this year. We understand this is a learning process!

Thank you for continued efforts in helping to build a strong general studies assessment system!