Choosing a Writing Course at U-M: A Guide for Transfer Students
Navigating Directed Self-Placement for Writing

The Directed Self-Placement for Writing (DSP) gives you a chance to learn about the types of academic writing most often assigned and valued at the University of Michigan. The DSP will help you judge your own readiness for and comfort with college writing, and assist you in choosing your writing courses.

As a transfer student, should you take the Transfer DSP or the First-Year DSP?

Have you taken a writing course that might fulfill the First-Year Writing Requirement (FYWR)?

- **YES**
  - Is it on Sweetland’s Approved Courses list?
    - **YES**
      - Petition Sweetland 1 month before orientation
    - **NO**
      - Is it on Sweetland’s Not Approved Courses list?
        - **NO**
          - Take the Transfer DSP
        - **YES**
          - Take the First-Year DSP

- **NO**
  - Was your petition successful?
    - **YES**
      - Take the Transfer DSP
    - **NO**
      - Take the First-Year DSP

**Take the Transfer DSP**

- Talk with your advisor to discuss your results and pick a class.
- **WRITING 340 or 350**
  - For students who’d like more practice with writing before the ULWR.
- **ULWR course alongside WRITING 340 or WRITING 350**
  - For students who feel ready to take a ULWR course, but want additional support.
- **ULWR course by itself**
  - For students who feel ready for the ULWR.

**Take the First-Year DSP**

- Talk with your advisor to discuss your results and pick a class.
- **WRITING 100**
  - For students who’d like more practice with writing before the FYWR course.
- **WRITING 120**
  - For students who’d like more support with written academic English before the FYWR.
- **FYWR course**
  - For students who feel ready for the FYWR.