

➤ ELOQUENTIA PERFECTA: WRITING

Eloquentia Perfecta – writing well for the good of others – has been at the heart of a Jesuit education since 1599. It’s no wonder, then, that support for writing is a key element in the *Always Forward* initiative.

At Le Moyne, **we believe** that writing effectively is at the heart of an education that guides students to think critically and act ethically. **We believe** that writing persuasively requires us to engage with others respectfully and constructively. **We believe** that writing well is at the core of the Jesuit liberal arts and the success of our students and our alumni, in their professions and their communities. **We believe** that all Le Moyne students should communicate thoughtfully and eloquently.



The Challenge

High school students nationwide are underperforming in writing competencies. The most recent data from the National Center for Educational Statistics show that just 27 percent of eighth- and 12th-grade students demonstrate writing proficiency. At Le Moyne, we want to enable all students to write at the highest levels.

We know that students become better writers when they participate in smaller classes, receive individual attention, and have multiple opportunities to write at all levels of the curriculum. According to the Council for Writing Program Administrators, a college-wide curriculum that includes consistent, well-structured writing instruction fosters habits of mind, such as persistence, engagement, creativity and responsibility, that lead to success.

To help students develop these habits and increase their ability to communicate effectively to diverse audiences, Le Moyne commits itself to providing the instructional and programmatic resources necessary for students to cultivate their critical and creative reading, thinking and writing skills.

Writing Is Foundational

Excellent writing is prized in all fields. Thinking well, speaking well and writing well contribute to personal satisfaction and professional success.

“The ability to communicate effectively certainly has benefited me in my career and community involvement. The training I received at Le Moyne allowed me to hone my skills and taught me how to perform research. Every industry needs good communicators. Perfect your communication skills and you will be in demand.”

Eileen Weir '90,
current mayor of
Independence, Mo.





“Writing is a process and a lens through which thinking happens.”

Miles Taylor, Ph.D.
Director, First-year Writing Program

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Value, Clarity, Distinction

Our alumni express the value of their Le Moyne education by commending our enduring commitment to excellence in writing.

Madison Hahesy '15, MBA '17, who earned a Bachelor of Arts in English and Master of Business Administration from the College, has begun her career as an academic and membership affairs intern with the NCAA, has this to say about her Le Moyne education:

“Writing is integral to what I do every day. My writing reaches various athletic administrators across the country, and I have adapted quite seamlessly to the NCAA’s style of writing. I am more than proud to tell anyone who will listen that I earned a bachelor’s degree in English literature with a minor in advanced writing from none other than Le Moyne College.”

Extending Intellectual Life

Our Core Curriculum reflects Le Moyne’s commitment to excellence in student writing. In the First-year Writing Program, students practice critical reading, thinking and writing to build a foundation for success throughout their education. Subsequent writing-intensive courses in philosophy and English enable students to develop these skills. In subsequent years, students refine and enhance their skills, and then use what they’ve learned throughout their student careers on the Heights and beyond. Small courses, taught by inspiring instructors, are key to educating students who are prepared to write well wherever their studies and careers lead them.

Support for faculty development will be key to continued success. Le Moyne’s writing center will host visiting experts in instructional design, pedagogy and creative writing. The director will host workshops for faculty in all disciplines, from business analytics to nursing to biology, to advance writing across campus.

Through the *Always Forward* campaign and the endowments that will be created to name our writing center and our director, Le Moyne’s generous donors will infuse new resources into our campus writing culture. We will ensure that an innovative, dedicated writing center director works with students, faculty and staff to improve student learning outcomes throughout the College and that a cadre of student peer writing tutors will work with fellow Dolphins. We will support programming designed to improve writing in all areas of the College – in the core and the majors, as well as in undergraduate and graduate programs – and to showcase student writing achievement on the web, in readings, and in their research.

Writing well for the good of others – this is at the heart of Le Moyne’s Jesuit mission.