“UCSC would not be the institution that it is now if its founders hadn’t intuited the importance of identifying, challenging, and respecting our beginning students’ strengths as thinkers and writers.”

- Don Rothman, Emeritus

The Writing Program offers courses designed to help students become more competent and confident writers of prose. These courses approach writing as one of the most important ways we have of making discoveries about ourselves and the world around us and of communicating these insights to others.

The Writing Program faculty serve a wide range of students:

- High School Students in the community
- Students working to satisfy the ELWR
- College Core course students
- Writing 2 and first-year students
- Upper Division Writing Assistants
- Graduate students

The Writing Program partners with other divisions at UC Santa Cruz to positively impact the general community.

Scholars at UC Santa Cruz, in collaboration with local educational agencies, have won a $250,000 grant to help high school English teachers in the Pajaro Valley Unified School District prepare for new state standards in reading and writing.

The objective is to help teachers prepare high school students for the rigor of college and career work through analytical reading and writing, as required by the new Common Core State Standards. The program, called Alliance for Language and Literary Instruction Effecting Standards (ALLIES), will work with up to 40 English teachers from Watsonville, Pajaro Valley, and Aptos high schools.

UCSC Entry-Level Writing Requirement Coordinator Sarah-Hope Parmeter is co-director of this project, participating in both planning and school-site workshops for teachers.

Next year, we hope to expand this project to include teachers in Social and Natural Sciences, who now must also meet writing goals under the new state standards.
The Humanities are a diverse set of disciplines that explore what it means to be human. They help us use the past to inform the present and envision a better future. UCSC’s Humanities Division exemplifies the campus’s pioneering role in both interdisciplinary research and undergraduate education. The division includes nine departments and programs that offer undergraduate and graduate degrees and support faculty research.

For more information about supporting the Writing Program at UC Santa Cruz, please contact:

Deborah Claesgens
Development, Humanities Division (831) 459-4713
dclaesge@ucsc.edu

To make an online gift, visit our secure web site: giving.ucsc.edu

Humanities Don Rothman Writing Awards

This award honors the achievements of one or more first-year students in the genre of nonfiction, academic, analytic writing, and recognizes excellence in writing pedagogy. The award recipients also honor their most influential teachers. Up to five students receive an acknowledgment and monetary award up to $300 during a Fall awards ceremony.

Don Rothman was a writing instructor at UCSC who created the award to recognize first year writing students.

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“This part of Don’s message is to remind the campus that the effective teaching of writing to undergraduate students is essential to the mission of a research university.”

-James Wilson, Chair

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