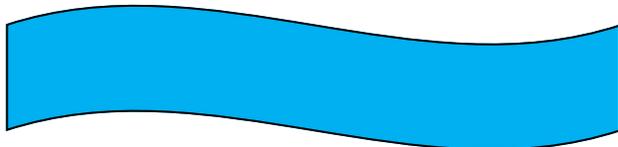




COMPASS TEST

WHAT STUDENTS SHOULD KNOW



THE COMPASS TEST

The COMPASS Test is a computer-adaptive test that assists advisors in: (1) evaluating students' skill level in one or more areas (English, reading, and/or math), (2) placing students' in the appropriate classes, (3) connecting students to campus resources to foster academic success.

Before the test begins, you will provide demographic information such as your name, address, email and identification number. A brief tutorial on how to navigate the test will be provided. Please review the information below for each test.

Reading: The multiple choice reading placement test evaluates reading skills with five types of reading comprehension questions (practical reading, humanities, prose fiction, social sciences and natural sciences.)

Writing: The multiple choice writing skills placement test evaluates knowledge of punctuation, capitalization, spelling, verb formation/agreement, usage, clauses, shifts in construction and organization. You will be given a passage and asked to find errors. Some portions of the essay may not require changes and are correct as originally written.

Math: The multiple choice algebra placement test evaluates your skills in substitution of values, setting equations, basic operations and factoring with polynomials, exponents and radicals, rational expressions and linear equations with one and two variables. You will be allowed to use an approved calculator for this test.

HELPFUL TIPS FOR TESTING

Relax! The COMPASS test is simply designed to help you and your advisor place you into appropriate classes. The test is untimed. Each section may take at least one hour.

Concentrate only on the test. Focus on the test questions and tune out all distractions. If your mind begins to wander, simply take a few deep breaths to relax.

Make sure you understand the directions. Information is provided before you begin each section of the test, so make sure to read all of the directions. The Testing Staff will not be able to answer questions about test content, but may answer general questions as it relates to directions and test procedures.

Think. Use knowledge, logic, common sense, and have confidence in your ability to reason through each question. Don't spend too much time on each question, think through the problem that is being asked and determine the best answer. If you are not sure, simply guess; you are not penalized.

Don't pay attention to other students. Other students may finish the test at different times. Each student has a different test and may work at a different pace. Remember, the test adapts to your skill level.

"BE THE BEST WHENEVER YOU TEST."

