

Student Understanding Contract

Adapted from a similar instrument by Paul and Elder with permission.

- 1) I understand that there are intellectual standards in this course and that I am to assist in monitoring and improving my own thinking and learning._____
- 2) I understand that the class will often focus on practice and not lecture._____
- 3) I understand that when lecture is being used, I will not speak unless it is for the benefit of the whole class._____
- 4) I understand that on a typical day I may be working in a small group and that I will be responsible to take an active part in advancing the assigned work of the group._____
- 5) I understand that if at any time in the semester I feel unsure about my grade, I may submit my grade calculations for the instructors review._____
- 6) I understand that I must keep a portfolio of my work which will include all graded and ungraded activities and writing assignments along with corrected or improved versions of all graded work._____
- 7) I understand that my final portfolio must include a self-evaluation in which I assess my own improvement._____
- 8) I understand that if a writing assignment is due for a class day and it is not completed, then I am not prepared to do the in-class work of the day and will be asked to go to another location to complete the assignment. I also understand that I may return to class once the assignment is completed._____
- 9) I understand that writing to learn is a form of thinking practice, and just as a basketball player does not get feedback on every shot she or he takes in practice, neither will I receive a grade on every paper I write._____
- 10) I understand that there is a comprehensive final exam in this course._____
- 11) I understand that the work of the course requires consistent classroom attendance and active participation._____
- 12) I understand that I should schedule at least eight hours per week for homework in this course. _____
- 13) I understand that the class will not be graded on a curve and that it is theoretically possible for the whole class to get an A or an F._____
- 14) I understand the basis of the final grade as outlined in the syllabus._____

Name (print):_____

Sign: _____