

First Year Writing Program, Yeshiva College, Fall 2015

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For many incoming college writers, the expectation of revision can be daunting. Completing an essay is often seen as challenging and time consuming enough; figuring out how—or why—to rewrite it can, at least at first, seem frustratingly superfluous. Furthermore, because students think in such individual ways, write with such different tendencies, and come into college with such varied experiences of reading, there's no one way to revise or to teach revision. However, because revision is such a fundamental aspect of the writing (and thinking) process, it has long been a priority among the skills First Year Writing courses aim to help students develop.

With the elusive nature of revision in mind, we recently focused our assessment efforts on trying to better understand student experiences of revision.