Language Skills Test
& Academic Integrity Test

How and What to Study

What is the LST/AIT?
The Language Skills Test and Academic Integrity Tests are the entrance examinations to the Gaylord College of Journalism and Mass Communication. Both tests must be successfully completed prior to enrollment in JMC 2033 (Writing for Mass Media), a course that is required of all journalism and mass communication majors. The LST covers grammar, punctuation and spelling. The AIT covers information from the Academic Misconduct Code as printed in the University of Oklahoma Student Code booklet. Transfer students who have already completed the equivalent of JMC 2033 must pass both tests before permission will be given to enroll in any upper division (3000+) journalism course.

When can I take it?
You should plan to take both the LST and AIT early in the semester, before pre-registration for the next semester begins. Both tests are offered Monday through Friday, from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the Student Services Center (Gaylord Hall, Suite 2533).

What’s on the test?
- Spelling (15 questions)
- Frequently confused words and irregular verb forms (10 questions)
- Identifying parts of speech and parts of a sentence (15 questions)
- General Language Skills (40 questions)

What should I study?
We strongly encourage you to thoroughly review prior to taking the LST. Many students report that they haven’t had a grammar & composition class since the 7th or 8th grade. Please do not take the test “cold” just to see how you will do. Any one of the following textbooks will help you review for the LST.
- Media Writer’s Handbook by George T. Arnold
- A Pocket Style Manual (2nd ed.) by Diana Hacker
- Working With Words (4th ed.) by Pinson, Brooks, Gaddy and Wilson
- When Words Collide (5th ed.) by Lauren Kessler and Duncan McDonald

We HIGHLY recommend that you visit the online study guide. You can find it at http://www.ou.edu/gaylord in the Prospective Students portion of the website.

The AIT consists of 20 questions that are taken directly from information in the Academic Misconduct Code in the University of Oklahoma’s Student Code booklet. You may pick up a copy of the booklet in the Student Services Center (Gaylord Hall, Suite 2533) or download one at http://www.ou.edu/studentcode/OUStudentCode.pdf. This test is OPEN BOOK. You will be given the handout for the duration of the test.

How many times can I take it?
You may attempt the LST & AIT up to three (3) times during your academic career at the University of Oklahoma. Please note: if you fail the third time we offer the option of taking JMC 0123 Fundamentals of Writing for one last attempt. Also, please be aware that JMC 0123 (Fundamentals of Writing for the Media) will not apply toward the total hours required to complete your Bachelor of Arts in Journalism, but special attention is given to grammar and syntax. The final exam in this course is the LST.