

Writing Across the Curriculum 2017 Announcement

Event: Faculty Seminar in Writing, Teaching, and Learning Across the Curriculum and in the Disciplines

Presenters: Marieka Brown, Kefaya Diab, and Kelly Whitney, English

Dates: Monday, May 15 - Friday, May 19, 2017

Time: 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM

Location: Milton Hall, Room 50

Application deadline: April 30, 2017

Overview

The Department of English and the Teaching Academy invite applications from faculty and administrators who teach for an intensive five-day Writing Across the Curriculum seminar. Since its inception in 1983, the seminar has brought together faculty from across the disciplines to investigate efficient and effective uses of writing in teaching and to explore benefits of writing for learning in disciplines.

Participation in the seminar does not require special preparation or proficiency in writing. An interest in helping students learn to write and write to learn is the main prerequisite.

Given our institution's recently launched four-year project focusing on Writing in the Disciplines as part of our re-accreditation by the HLC (Higher Learning Commission), this is a great time to learn to help your students think and write like a historian, a biologist, and so on, along with identifying how low-stakes writing can strengthen student learning and thinking. This is also a great opportunity to collaborate with others in your discipline to revisit the types of writing assigned to students, so we encourage collaborative or "disciplinary team" applications.

What past participants have said about the workshop:

"It's a great workshop where you learn new and engaging methodologies for integrating writing, active learning, and critical thinking into the classes you teach."

"I was only really familiar with the kinds of writing assignments I'd had as a student—mostly term papers and essay exams—and these took me ages to grade because I'd never learned any strategies for grading essays more efficiently. I found this workshop to be incredibly helpful in giving me a wider perspective on the many kinds of writing that can be assigned and on the many ways these assignments can be graded."

Seminar Objectives

The seminar has three primary goals:

- Facilitating student learning through writing
- Improving teaching by training diverse faculty in the writing process and the instructional uses of writing
- Extending a network of informed instructors to address issues regarding student literacy across the university.

Seminar Topics

The seminar will include discussions of a number of topics including

- Exploring the writing process to establish relationships between writing and learning
- Defining “good” writing and developing strategies to encourage students to produce “good” writing
- Using writing in teaching, especially the use of informal writing to promote learning and reinforce classroom instruction
- Assigning writing in large classes without creating an unreasonable paper-grading burden
- Designing effective writing assignments
- Responding to and evaluating student writing

Stipend and Eligibility

The English Department, through the College of Arts and Sciences, will provide \$200.00 honoraria for seminar participants who are not on twelve-month contracts. Tenured, tenure-track, college faculty with continuing appointments, and administrators who include teaching among their responsibilities are eligible. Fifteen seats are available, and they will be awarded to assure representation in a variety of academic ranks and disciplines. A short application form will serve as a preliminary screening device. Decisions will be announced in early May.

If you are interested in participating in this summer’s seminar, please complete the application form and return to Kelly Whitney via email at kwhit@nmsu.edu. Deadline for applications is April 30, 2017.

If you have any questions or need more information, please email Kelly at kwhit@nmsu.edu, Marieka Brown at mariebro@nmsu.edu, or Kefaya Diab at kefaya@nmsu.edu