

INTEGRATING WRITING WORKSHOPS IN YOUR COURSE: WHAT TO EXPECT

Overview: The Writing Workshop Program can offer writing workshops to support a wide variety of learning goals. We will work with you to determine the best way to integrate these workshops: the number, timing, content, and format of the workshops can all be tailored to your needs.

Your engagement is crucial. When the classroom professor helps to integrate the writing instruction with the course content, the students begin to understand that “doing in the discipline” and “writing in the discipline” are not separate processes—and indeed are inseparable. Considerable research on writing supports the need for disciplinary faculty to help students to understand the underlying values and patterns of reasoning that guide discourse norms in the discipline.

Here’s how you can help students see the connection between writing and doing:

- Make the assignment as “real” as possible. Choose writing that someone in your discipline would actually do, for some real disciplinary purpose. Think broadly: what type of writing do you do in a typical day?
- Explain the purposes of various forms of writing in your discipline
- Describe what factors contribute to effective writing in your discipline (brevity? style?)
- Clearly emphasize that good writing is valued in the discipline
- Collaborate with the Writing Workshop Program to align your learning goals with the assignment and instruction
- Attend workshops, to participate in discussions, answer questions, and work with us to show students how the skills are used in your discipline

We will be happy to discuss these issues in more detail during our initial meetings with you.

Schedule: In order to make workshop integration as smooth as possible, and to improve every semester, we ask that you:

- Complete the Integrating Writing Workshops in Your Course: Preparatory Questionnaire
- Participate in an initial planning meeting.
 - Earlier is always better, but we need at least two weeks notice before the first workshop.
 - Last minute-workshops can occasionally be accommodated, especially in the context of an established course relationship, but we cannot guarantee this.
- Touch base quickly after the workshop about what went well and what might need to be modified.
- Participate in an end-of-semester wrap-up meeting to review how things went and document potential opportunities for improvement or expansion.
- Respond to the end-of-semester survey about your experience.