

Tips for WI Faculty

Responding to Student Writing: Two Suggestions

- *Give minimal, nonverbal comments*, such as underlining. For example, a straight underline for strong writing is sufficient and even preferable to writing in the margins. Be sure to include a rubric and/or explain verbally in class what these markings mean.
- *Address students by name in final comments*. For example, writing “Dear _____” will make your comments more personal, which in turn makes it more likely that the student will read it.

*Welcome New Writing Fellows!**



Amber Horning is a PhD student in the Department of Criminal Justice at CUNY Graduate Center/John Jay. Her dissertation is about pimps' constructions of masculinities through social exchanges and within urban territories. She teaches in the Sociology Department at John Jay and is part of the Social Research Networks Group (SNRG).



Bernadette Ludwig is a PhD candidate in Sociology at The Graduate Center, The City University of New York. She is currently writing her dissertation titled “America is Not the Heaven We Dream Of: Liberian Refugees in Staten Island, New York.” Since 2009 she has been teaching at colleges in New York City—including Queens College, Fordham University, and Hostos Community College.

News and Announcements

Be on the lookout for monthly newsletters from WAC. If you have anything that you'd like to include in the newsletter, please contact Anna Simonson, acsimonson@gmail.com.

Fall 2012 WAC Training

The next WAC training session for BMCC faculty will be held on Friday, November 9, from 10-1 in CETLS.

Make-up Session for November 2nd.

In order to make up the hours missed during the storm, there will be a training session on Nov. 30th from 10 AM to noon. This meeting is not mandatory. However, if you cannot attend, please schedule a meeting with your Writing Fellow.

Spring 2013 WAC Training

Applications for the Spring 2013 WAC Training will be delivered soon. The deadline for application will be Dec. 10. WAC training participants learn to organize their syllabi around writing-to-learn activities, to write effective writing assignments and to develop a system for grading student writing. Seminars in the spring take place on five Mondays between 2-5. Dates TBD.

WAC Website Up and Running!

The Writing Across the Curriculum at BMCC website contains information about upcoming WAC events, training and certification for WI courses, and the role of Writing Fellows, as well as offering sample assignments and links to writing resources. Visit us at:

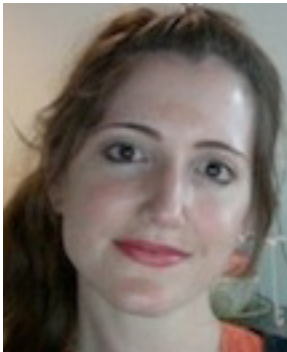
http://socrates.bmcc.cuny.edu/wac/WAC_at_BMCC/Welcome.html

Meet the Writing Fellows, continued.

Jin Chang (no photo), Amber Horning, Bernadette Ludwig, Colin Macdonald, Anna Simonson, and Liang Zhao.



Colin Macdonald is a PhD candidate in English at the CUNY Graduate Center, specializing in Renaissance Drama. Before serving as a BMCC Writing Fellow, he taught Composition and Literature at Queens College.



Anna Simonson is a PhD candidate in History at The Graduate Center, CUNY. Her research focuses on American feminism in the 1940s and '50s, particularly the ways in which historical memory was used to promote women's rights. Before serving as a Writing Fellow at BMCC, Anna taught American History at Hunter College.



Liang Zhao is a fifth-year PhD student in the Department of Mathematics at CUNY Graduate Center. He has been dedicated to solving various number-theoretical problems, including the Szpiro's conjecture. Currently he is working on counter-examples to show that Szpiro's conjecture cannot be strengthened. He spent the last two years teaching at City College.

**Writing Fellows are thinking partners for faculty to facilitate the practical implementation of WAC principles and pedagogies.*

What Is WAC?

Writing Across the Curriculum (WAC) at BMCC is a resource for faculty members in all departments who are interested in promoting student learning through writing. The links on this page will let you know who we are, what we do, and how we can support your work in the classroom.

How Do I Get Involved?

Training and Certification: Training sessions for full-time faculty interested in teaching WI courses are held each semester. The training consists of five three-hour workshops facilitated by the WAC coordinators and Writing Fellows. Each faculty member partners with a Writing Fellow during the training session and in the following semester. The Writing Fellow will help you develop your course and be on hand to help you with any unexpected challenges as you pilot your WI course. Read more about the trainings and download an application.

What Resources Will Be Available To Me?

WAC-trained faculty will be supported by a Writing Fellow during their first semester of teaching their WI course – the same course that they work on designing in the training. However, faculty may also request a meeting with a Fellow after their first semester, often to develop a new assignment or address a specific problem area. If you would like to schedule a consultation with a Writing Fellow, send an email to BMCCWritingFellows@gmail.com. We will do our best to respond to your request in a timely manner.

What About Continuing Education?

To support the ongoing work of teaching WI courses, the WAC program offers 90-minute refresher workshops. Topics of recent refreshers have included making the most of BMCC's library resources and responding to student writing. These workshops are held twice a semester and are open to all interested faculty, whether or not they are WAC-certified. [Click here](#) for information about the next workshop.