

Spring into the Semester

at the

Writing Program Symposium



The Writing Program
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Spring Symposium

Writing Program

*University of Massachusetts,
Amherst*

2011



January 14, 2011

11:30 am -2:15 pm

Bartlett Hall

***Sessions presented by Writing
Program Teaching Associates***

**General Meeting
Bartlett 65
11:30-12:00**



**Lunch
Outside Bartlett 65
12:00-12:25**

**Session 1
12:35- 1:20**

A Why Bother?: Examining the Neutrality of The Penguin Handbook

Bartlett 109

Anne Bello, Morgan Lynn, Kathleen Baldwin

Using the lens of diversity to look at the Penguin Handbook helps raise questions about why we should bother to investigate the construction of “neutrality” in all of our class materials.

B A Smörgåsbord of Technology

Bartlett 105

Make technology work for you by joining the Tech Fellows for a cornucopia of intimate mini-sessions aimed at those who use tech, those who don’t use tech, and even those who fear tech beyond reason. Take your pick of 3 different hands-on learning stations in every workshop. Technology: Not just a gimmick.

Luke Phelan: Research activities for library follow-up sessions

Samantha Nataro: Finding supplementary materials for Other Words readings

Mark Leidner: Using document comparison software to illustrate and evaluate revision

C Seeing Double? --Strategies for Teaching Two Sections of College Writing

Bartlett 121

Amanda Waugh and Christopher Hennessy

The presenters will help you strategize ways to efficiently teach two sections of College Writing.

D Open to Debate?: Using Debate as a Teaching Tool

Bartlett 125

Sarah Magin and Miranda Dennis

This teaching presentation demonstrates the ways in which the art of debate constitutes a valuable teaching tool for College Writing. In-class debates not only energize a classroom, but also enable our students to engage in a more nuanced understanding of an issue or text.

**Session 2
1:30-2:15**

A Why Bother?: Examining the Neutrality of The Penguin Handbook

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Linh Dich, Kate Litterer, Neelofer Qadir

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Christina Jones: Using Google Docs to enhance peer review and (final) reflection

Anne Bello: Introducing research tools in Unit II to contextualize Other Words readings

Chris Ward: Using blogs to organize class activities, peer response, and feedback

C Behind the Forms

Bartlett 121

As teachers we sometimes receive forms from the Athletic Department and the Office of Disability Services. But who are these departments sending out the forms? This session will feature Joan Hopkins, Associate Director for Academic Support Services and Ben Ostiguy, Associate Director of Operations from Disability Services to discuss the services they provide their students and what we as teachers can expect from the students and do to enable them to achieve success.

D Enhancing Classroom Discussions

Bartlett 125

Abha Phoboo and Morgan Lynn

In this workshop, we will brainstorm discussion techniques and identify strategies for how to accomplish discussion goals while building classroom community.