

GWP PROFESSIONAL LEARNING EXPERIENCES

The Gateway Writing Project, a National Writing Project affiliate since 1978, facilitates professional learning programs dedicated to improving literacy learning. As our name implies, we have particular expertise in the teaching of writing; however, we have a network of teacher consultants who are skilled in teaching all components of literacy across all grade levels and disciplines.

To promote both teacher and student learning, we craft opportunities for professional learning that are connected to the everyday practice of teaching and relevant to teachers' professional needs. GWP believes strongly in teacher leadership and a "teachers teaching teachers" model.

BY DESIGN

As we create professional learning experiences, we include:

- theory, research, and instructional methods for implementing best practices
- the why behind what we are doing
- application ideas that are transferable to different content areas and grade levels
- an assets-based approach
- opportunities for participant choice
- community building that promotes a supportive relationship between facilitators and participants
- opportunities for continued connection with Gateway Writing Project
- a positive culture of giving and receiving feedback
- a collection of resources for continued learning
- connections to state standards from multiple disciplines



IN PRACTICE

During professional learning sessions, the participants will:

- write into the session
- create a shared vision or goal; set an intention for the work
- engage in experiential learning that includes purposeful:
 - Reading
 - Discussion
 - Writing
 - Modeling
 - Practice
 - Reflection
 - Feedback
- apply new learning during work time
- make a commitment to try a new method/strategy following the PL

During PL sessions, the facilitators will:

- come prepared
- be positive
- share a book talk
- provide an agenda including learning objectives
- be responsive to the room
- recognize the expertise in the room
- allow for vulnerability
- do checks for learning





GATEWAY WRITING PROJECT'S WriteOn! Workshop Series

Register: bit.ly/gatewaywritingproject

UMSL MILLENNIUM STUDENT CENTER
9AM - 3PM
COFFEE BAR & LUNCH PROVIDED
\$150 PER SESSION

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 5TH, 2024 WRITING TOWARDS HEALING

Literacy impacts the way we make meaning of the world around us. In a time when students are asked to think critically, read widely, write frequently, speak effectively, and listen intently, engaging students in literacy practices is increasingly vital. In this workshop, participants will engage in conversations and activities mostly centered around Ethical ELA's new open source materials that focus on writing to build community in order to positively impacts students' educational journeys. Participants will leave with application ideas for engaging students (and themselves) in literacy practices that promote well being and inclusive classrooms.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 16TH, 2025 NATIONAL WRITING PROJECT, SOURCE-BASED ARGUMENT PROGRAM GRADES 4TH-12TH ELA, SCIENCE, AND SOCIAL STUDIES

Do your students write nuanced arguments? Do they consider altering viewpoints before taking a stance? Now more than ever, we need to develop critical thinkers who can differentiate between the quality of evidence they encounter to inform their opinions. In this workshop, you will engage with instructional resources designed by the National Writing Project that address the challenges we often face within a traditional argument unit. Participants will leave with these tools to promote students' civic engagement in their communities.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 7TH, 2025 WRITING INSTRUCTION IN THE AGE OF AI

AI is here, and its impact has shifted the foundation of our work. Cracks have been exposed and cannot be ignored. We are ready to respond as teachers of writing, and we believe, as educator Cornelius Minor says, "The answer is in the room." Together, let's explore the implications for the writing process and the products we ask students to create. We will discuss issues of student engagement, ethics, curriculum integration, and digital literacy related to the prevalence of Large Language Models, ChatBots, etc. We will collectively share our experiences in order to learn about the successes, challenges, possibilities, and limitations of AI in our work and problem-solve together to navigate this new landscape while upholding our values about the beauty and power of writing.