

T&L 2900—Best Practices in Writing Instruction

Course at a Glance

Instructor/Presenter: Michelle Kalina

Length: 30 Hours

Dates: Enroll Anytime – Complete in 4 months

Number of Professional Development Credits: 2, from the University of North Dakota

Introduction

Excellent writing skills are important for all students across the curriculum. In this online course, teachers will learn evidence-based instructional writing strategies that directly connect to the Common Core State Standards for K-12 students. Topics covered in this course include strategies for teaching narrative composition, argumentative and informative writing skills, planning and revision techniques, improving sentence construction skills, spelling, and handwriting. Motivating students during the writing process, using technology to support writing instruction, as well as teaching writing to English Language Learners, and using writing instruction within the Response To Intervention framework are also covered in this class. Teachers will not only learn the latest research and instructional procedures but, will also have the opportunity to create lesson plans specific to the needs of the students in their classroom.

This self-paced course can be started and completed at the student's own leisure **within four months from the UND course registration date.**

Course Objectives

As a result of participation in this course, students should:

1. Learn how to design an effective writing program for pre-K-12th grade students.
2. Incorporate instructional best practices to teach narrative composition, argumentative, and informative writing.
3. Develop best practices in teaching, planning, evaluation, and revision of student assignments, as well as improving sentence structure, spelling skills, and using technological support across the curriculum.
4. Use instructional best practices to teach writing skills to English Language Learners.
5. Apply research-based instructional strategies to develop dynamic lesson plans for students in their classroom.

Session Topics

The course content is provided in three parts:

Part One – Chapter Readings and Packet Assignments

Part Two – Lesson Plans/Interventions

Part Three – Summary Project

Course Materials

The required reading is found in the text listed below. The required text is:

Graham, S., MacArthur, C. A., & Fitzgerald, J., eds. (2013). *Best Practices in Writing Instruction* 2nd Ed. New York: Guilford Press. (428 Pages)

Technical Requirements – Any online browser should work but IE 7 or Google Chrome are recommended.

Assignments & Grading Percentages toward Final Grade

- Reading/Packet Assignments (64% of final grade)
- Lesson Plans/Interventions (27% of final grade)
- Summary Project (9% of final grade)

Grading

This online course uses Letter Grading (A – F) or Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory (S/U). The grading option must be selected at the time of course registration.

The course instructor will review students' answers and provide feedback generally within 24 to 48 hours.

Scholastic Dishonesty

Students enrolled in this course are expected to be aware of the seriousness of scholastic dishonesty. Unacceptable behavior such as submitting someone else's work as your own, cheating on exams, or plagiarizing can result in failure of the course or other sanctions. For a more detailed description of these policies, please refer to the UND Code of Student Life; Appendix IIIa-3, at: <http://und.edu/student-affairs/code-of-student-life/>