

Writing Matters Summer Workshop for Faculty

Evaluation Responses

What do you do differently as a result of our Summer '05 workshops?

"I now have students write informal, short pieces in the Econ 302 . . . course. Students are asked to explain a technical concept to a non-econ major friend in lay terms. I do this 4-5 times during the semester. . . . For the Econ 370 course, . . . I require a draft that is graded and gives suggestions for improvements. When I grade the draft, I do not pinpoint every grammatical, spelling, and analytical mistake throughout the draft. Now I select a page and make corrections there and tell students that they should make similar corrections in the rest of the paper."

"The workshop provided many suggestions on different types of writing projects as well as suggestions on managing the potential requirement of time to grade . . . I greatly appreciated the opportunity to network with faculty from other areas and learned about different writing styles and requirements in the different disciplines. The most important lesson learned was the weighting of writing assignments to motivate students to exhibit their writing skills and not simply complete the assignment to not endanger their grade."

"The workshop has made me aware of different types of student writing and ways to incorporate writing into course requirements."

"I will make some changes—write more clearly about what I expect the final product will look like, bring back the journal writing because I now understand more clearly why writing is important, the purpose of journals, and how the process works."

"The workshop gave me now ideas for writing assignments, especially in using short writing assignments."

"I learned a lot of great ideas for incorporating smaller writing projects into the class throughout the semester and to make the writing meaningful. I've been able to add in more writing & improve my existing writing assignments. . . . It also 'fired up' my enthusiasm about adding writing into my courses again."

"I learned that writing more frequently will be more effective & important than one end of term paper."

"It was all helpful! Thanks!"

“This experience has prompted me to reexamine the relationship between my course goals and the written assignments I will give. Thank you for a practical and thought-provoking experience!”

“I will be paying greater attention to facilitating student success in writing assignments, providing opportunities for students to improve.”

“Discovering the variety of ways in which individual faculty perceive and present writing assignments has been extremely useful and mind-altering. I’m changing several of my writing assignments as a result of my new understanding and insights.”