

ENG 613: Composition GTF Apprenticeship for Writing Tutors
Fall 2016, CRN 12138

Instructor of Record: Miriam Gershow
Email: mgershow@uoregon.edu

Office/Phone: PLC 105, 346-0051
Office Hours: T 10-11:30, R 12-1:30 or by appt

Prospective Composition GTFs who work in the Writing Tutorial program spend fall term working with an experienced teacher in a section of WR 121, 122 or 123. The apprenticeship offers practical experience for teaching composition, which complements the theoretical work to be presented in ENG 611 in winter term. This course is also instrumental in helping Writing Tutors understand the pedagogy behind student essays. Grading option is P/NP only.

The apprenticeship is made up of these activities:

- Attend one full essay cycle of classes, thereby accumulating 12-15 hours of observation. You may stop attending after essay 1.2 is handed in or at the end of Week 5, whichever comes first.
- Attend the general apprentice meeting during the Composition Conference in Week of Welcome.
- Complete the apprenticeship plan with your mentor during Week 1.
- Teach 1 class session under the mentor's supervision.
- Observe two additional composition classroom meetings taught by two different composition teachers.
- Schedule a conference with Miriam to discuss your apprenticeship and your draft syllabus.
- Complete a 1-page reflection on the apprenticeship
- Write a sample syllabus for WR 121 in consultation with your mentor teacher and Miriam.

The apprentice and mentor should meet early in the first week of classes to work out a mutually agreeable schedule for the apprentice's participation in the course. This discussion should address the mentor's syllabus and plans for the course, the role of the apprentice during class meetings, and when and what the apprentice will teach.

The apprentice is an active observer of the course and a teacher only in a student-teacher capacity. The apprentice should not do any of the teacher's work; the teacher remains responsible for teaching and evaluating his or her students throughout the term.

Apprentices must attend all class meetings for the first essay cycle.

Additional Classroom Observations:

All apprentices will observe two additional composition classroom meetings, taught by two different composition teachers. A schedule of available writing classes will be posted on the Canvas course site.

One of these observations must be of Michael Copperman (Center for Multicultural Academic Excellence students), Tina Boscha (low-SAT scoring writers), Alison Lau (non-native speakers) or Emily Simnitt (non-native speakers). The second observation can be of any teacher on the list of available classes. All apprentices are strongly encouraged to observe discussion-based class sessions, such as discussions of readings or enthymeme workshops. A schedule of available writing classes will be posted on the Canvas course site. Contact the instructor in advance of your observations, to coordinate best classes to observe. *Do not show up to WR classrooms without advance communication to the instructor.*

Two 350-word responses to the observations are due on the Canvas by the Friday of Week 4 by 5pm. Response requirements are detailed on the Canvas Assignments page.

Individual Conference:

All apprentices will meet with Miriam in Weeks 5 or 6 to discuss their apprenticeship.

Final Assignments:

At the end of the term, all apprentices hand in a 1-page, typed reflection on the apprenticeship. This document could be a discussion of the most useful parts of the apprenticeship, a reflection on how mentor methods may or may not be adapted to a future classroom of yours, or an analysis on an important activity or teaching moment with a student. Also, apprentices will hand in a draft schedule of three units of course readings for future WR 121 courses. Details of these assignments can be found on the Canvas Assignments page. **Both assignments are due via Canvas by Wednesday, December 7th.** Mentors will submit a letter that briefly summarizes and evaluates the their apprentice by the end of week 10.

Course Grades:

As the teacher of record for ENG 613, I am responsible for overseeing all apprenticeships. In consultation with the mentor teacher, I will assign a grade of P or NP for the apprenticeship. A passing grade will signify satisfactory completion of all aspects of the apprenticeship by the end of the term. Unsatisfactory work on significant aspects of the apprenticeship will result in a grade of NP. Given the nature of the apprenticeship the grade of Incomplete is rarely appropriate. If apprentices or mentors have any questions or concerns, be in touch with me right away.