ENG 613: Composition GTF Apprenticeship
Winter 2017, CRN 22295

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Prospective Composition GTFs who have completed or are currently enrolled in ENG 611 spend one essay-cycle (up to five weeks) working with a mentor teacher in a WR121, WR122 or WR123 classroom. The apprenticeship is set up to complement the theoretical work in ENG 611 with practical experience for teaching WR courses. Grading option is P/NP only.

The apprenticeship is made up of these activities:

- Begin attending your mentor’s WR class on the first class session of the term.
- 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 on Thursday January 12, 6-6:50pm, 448 PLC.
- Complete the Plan for Apprentice Participation with your mentor during Week 1.
- Teach one class session under the mentor’s supervision.
- Observe 3 student conferences (3 individual conferences or 1 writing circle)
- 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. Copies of all books used in WR courses are available via the Knight Library Course Reserves, listed under Bergquist.

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 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. 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.

Responses to both Additional Classroom Observations are due by the Friday of Week 4 by 5pm via the Canvas course site. Requirements for the response are posted on Canvas.

Individual Conference:
All apprentices will meet with Miriam in Weeks 4 or 5 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 complete draft syllabus for future WR 121 courses. Details of these assignments can be found on Canvas. Both assignments are due via Canvas by Tuesday March 21 by 5pm. 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.

Learning Outcomes:
Upon completion of ENG 611, 612 and 613, GTFs in the composition-training program will achieve these outcomes:

1. Articulate and put into practice the key concepts, pedagogical practices, and learning outcomes of the Composition Program
2. Develop an individualized approach to the Composition Program pedagogy grounded in theory and best practices
3. Understand the needs of various populations of students in the writing classroom
4. Analyze and assess argumentation in college-level student writing
5. Understand the professional responsibilities of teaching at the University of Oregon