

Building a Culture of Writing

This Fall 2016, the English Language Arts (ELA) division of the Georgia Department of Education (GaDOE) will offer ***Collaborative Conversations on Building a Culture of Writing*** as an interactive professional learning series designed to build teachers' capacity for writing instruction while cultivating a culture of writing. Teachers in grades K – 5 and 6 – 12 will work through seven uniquely designed sessions, where researchers and educators will share research-based writing and literacy practices along with practical classroom application.

Series Highlights:

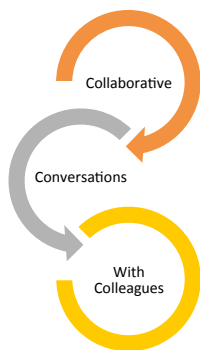
- **Expert panelists** (College/University Professors, Coaches, ELA Coordinators, Classroom teachers, and members of GaDOE staff) will present evidence-based and practical application of writing and literacy strategies
- **Live, interactive 90-minute webcast** Broadcast from GaDOE's Classroom for Innovation to participating sites, followed by a 90-minute implementation session with on-site facilitator
- **Recorded sessions** Participant and facilitator materials hosted on the GaDOE website for districts, schools, and teachers to design and personalize learning

Series Learning Model:

- **Tiered Professional Learning**
 - Tier I (Self-paced option)
 - Tier II (Professional Learning Community with Facilitator option)
 - Tier III (Live, on-site option)

Series Timeline:

Session Title	Grades K-5	Grades 6-12
Essential Components of Teaching Writing	September 20, 2016	October 20, 2016
Assessing Writing	October 18, 2016	September 22, 2016
Writing Genres	November 15, 2016	November 17, 2016
Writing Across the Curriculum	January 24, 2017	January 26, 2017
Disciplinary Literacy	February 21, 2017	February 23, 2017
Digital/Media Literacy	March 14, 2017	March 16, 2017
*Visual Literacy (Recorded at the High Museum)	Recorded Session posted April 2017	Recorded Session posted April 2017



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Brief Session Overview:

Essential Components of Teaching Writing Participants will become familiar with instructional frameworks for teaching writing. They will also deepen their understanding of ways to integrate writing opportunities in response to students' engagement with text.

Assessing Writing Participants will delve into the wealth of knowledge they can gain through assessing student writing and examine how this information can be effectively used to guide further instruction.

Writing Genres Participants will explore structures, techniques, and conventions associated with narrative, informational, and opinion/argumentative writing.

Writing Across the Curriculum Participants will deepen their understanding of how to support students with synthesizing information and explaining their understanding of key concepts and ideas.

Disciplinary Literacy Participants will examine appropriate strategies to help students comprehend informational/nonfiction text. Grade-appropriate strategies for careful and intentional analysis of informational/nonfiction text will also be explored.

Digital/Media Literacy Participants will develop new ways to engage students in the practice of accessing, developing, and sharing information using digital texts.

Visual Literacy Participants will explore inquiry-based teaching strategies to support students with observing artwork, creating meaning, articulating a response, and finding evidence to support their opinions and reasoning.

*Participants are highly encouraged to participate in all sessions of the series; however, districts, schools and teachers should design professional learning to meet their individual needs.

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