

Dan Melzer



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Director of First-Year Composition
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Pronouns: he/him/his

Education

Ph.D., Rhetoric and Composition	Florida State University, 2002
M.A., Literature	Colorado State University, 1996
B.A. with Honors, English	University of Florida, 1993

Publications

Books

Reconstructing Response to Student Writing: A National Study from across the Curriculum. Utah State University Press, 2023.

Engaging Ideas: The Professor's Guide to Integrating Writing, Critical Thinking, and Active Learning in the Classroom. 3rd ed. Coauthored with John Bean. Jossey-Bass, 2021.

Sustainable WAC: A Whole Systems Approach to Launching and Developing Writing Across the Curriculum Programs. Coauthored with Michelle Crow and Jeffrey Galin. National Council of Teachers of English, 2018.

- Review: *Composition Studies*, vol. 47, no. 2. 2019, pp. 227-230.
- Review. *Across the Disciplines*, vol. 16, no. 2, 2019, pp. 54-58.

Assignments across the Curriculum: A National Study of College Writing. Utah State UP, 2014.

- Review. *Writing Program Administration*, vol. 39, no. 2, 2016, pp. 160-165.
- Review. *Composition Studies*, vol. 44, no. 2, 2016, pp. 203-210.

- Review. *Journal of Teaching Writing*, vol. 31, no. 1, 2016, pp. 121-130.
- Review. *College English*, vol. 78, no. 4, 2016, pp. 394-406.
- Review. *Inside Higher Education*, August 21, 2014.

Scholarly Articles and Book Chapters

- “The Adoption of Contract Grading in a University Writing Program: Navigating Disruptions to Assessment Ecologies.” Coauthored with Sarah Faye, Erika I-Tremblay, DJ Quinn, and Lisa Sperber. *Writing Program Administration*, vol. 46, no. 2, 2023.
- “Responding for Transfer.” *Composition Forum*, vol. 50, 2022, <https://compositionforum.com/issue/50/responding-transfer.php>
- “Placing Peer Response at the Center of the Response Construct.” *Journal of Response to Writing*, vol. 6, no.2, 2020, pp. 7-41.
- “Exploring White Privilege in Tutor Education.” *Praxis: A Writing Center Journal*, vol. 16, no. 2, 2019, <http://www.praxisuwc.com/162-melzer>
- “Building Sustainable WAC Programs: A Whole Systems Approach.” Coauthored with Michelle Cox and Jeff Galin. *The WAC Journal*, vol. 29, 2018, pp. 64-87.
-- Reprinted in *Best of the Journals in Rhetoric and Composition 2020*. Parlor Press, 2021.
- “Remedial, Basic, Advanced: Evolving Frameworks for First-Year Composition at the California State University.” *The Journal of Basic Writing*, vol. 34, no. 1, 2015, pp. 81-106.
-- reprinted in *Best of the Journals in Rhetoric and Composition 2017*. Parlor Press, 2018.
- “The Connected Curriculum: Designing a Vertical Transfer Writing Curriculum.” *The WAC Journal*, vol. 25, 2014, pp. 78-91.
- “Exploring Should ‘I’ Be Avoided or Embraced? Divergence between Political Scientist and Student Writing Norms.” Coauthored with Ted Lascher. *Political Science*, vol. 46, no. 4, 2013, pp. 802-07.
- “Using Systems Thinking to Transform Writing Programs.” *Writing Program Administration*, vol. 36, no. 2, 2013, pp. 75-94.
- “Using Grounded Theory in Writing Assessment.” Coauthored with Todd Migliaccio. *The WAC Journal*, vol. 22, 2011, pp. 79-89.
- “Writing Assignments Across the Curriculum: A National Study of College Writing.” *College Composition and Communication*, vol. 61, no. 2, 2009, pp. 240-261.
-- reprinted in Terry Myers Zawacki and Paul Rogers, editors. *Writing Across the Curriculum: A Critical Sourcebook*. Bedford/St.Martin’s, 2011.
- “WAC Websites as Knowledge Webs.” *The WAC Journal*, vol. 17, 2006, pp. 23-32.
- “Synchronous OWL Tutoring: A Self-Study of Chat Room Conferences.” *The Writing Lab Newsletter*, vol. 29, no. 10, 2005, pp. 10-13.
- “Research Writing in First-Year Composition and Across Disciplines: Assignments, Attitudes, and Student Performance.” Coauthored with Pavel Zemliansky. *Kairos: A Journal of Rhetoric, Technology, and Pedagogy*, vol. 8, no. 1, 2003, <http://english.ttu.edu/kairos/>

“Assignments Across the Curriculum: A Survey of College Writing.” *Language and Learning Across the Disciplines*, vol. 6, no. 1, 2002, pp. 86-110.

“Pluralism in Practice: An Approach to Language Variety.” *Included in English Studies: Learning Climates that Cultivate Racial and Ethnic Diversity*, edited by Sheri Fowler and Victor Villanueva, AAHE, 2002.

“Constructivism Online: A Survey of Freshman Writing Distance Learning Courses.” *Currents in Electronic Literacy*, 1999, <http://www.cwrl.utexas.edu/currents/>

Textbooks and Textbook Chapters

“Understanding Discourse Communities.” *Writing Spaces: Readings on Writing*, vol. 3, 2020, <https://writingspaces.org/node/1714>

“So Your Teacher is Using Contract Grading...” Coauthored with Sarah Faye et al. *Writing Commons*, 2019, <https://writingcommons.org/article/so-your-instructor-is-using-contract-grading/>

Exploring College Writing: Reading, Writing, and Researching Across the Curriculum. Equinox, 2012.

Everything's a Text. Coauthored with Deborah Coxwell Teague. Pearson/Longman, 2011.

“Academic Discourse Community Mini-Ethnography.” *The College Writing Toolkit*, edited by Martha Pennington and Pauline Burton, Equinox, 2010.

“Responding to Research Writing.” *Research Writing Revisited: A Sourcebook for Teachers*, edited by Wendy Bishop and Pavel Zemliansky, Heinemann, 2004.

“The Art of Academic Diplomacy: How to Finesse Departmental Politics as a Grad Student.” Coauthored with Paul Reifenhiser. *Finding Our Way: A Writing Teacher's Sourcebook*, edited by Wendy Bishop and Deborah Coxwell Teague, Houghton Mifflin, 2004.

“Understanding Writing Assignments: Tips and Techniques.” *The Subject is Writing*, 3rd ed., edited by Wendy Bishop, Boynton/Cook, 2002.

“Reading: It's Not Just Books Anymore.” *The Subject is Reading: Essays by Teachers and Students*, edited by Wendy Bishop, Boynton/Cook, 2000.

National and International Conference Presentations

“Questioning Assumptions about DSP and Student Agency: A Proposal for a Constructivist Writing Placement Framework.” *Council of Writing Program Administrators Conference*. Reno, NV. July 17, 2023.

“Intentional WAC.” *Conference on College Composition and Communication*. Online. April 9, 2021.

“Re-Visioning Lower Division Writing Instruction.” *Symposium on Second Language Writing*. Tempe, AZ. November 16, 2019.

“Aligning Grading and Pedagogy: Pioneering Contract Grading in a Writing Program.” *Council of Writing Program Administrators Conference*. Sacramento, CA. July 28, 2018.

“Responding for Transfer: Threshold Concepts and Teacher Response.” *Threshold Conference*. Oxford, Ohio. June 15, 2018.

“White Privilege in the Writing Center.” *Canadian Writing Centres Association Conference*. Toronto, Canada. May 26, 2017.

“Sustainable WAC: A Whole Systems Approach to Launching and Developing WAC Programs.” *International Writing Across the Curriculum Conference*. Ann Arbor, MI. June 25, 2016.

“Starting, Revitalizing, and Sustaining WAC Programs with a Whole Systems Approach.” *Council of Writing Program Administrators Conference*. Boise, ID. July 18, 2015.

“Shifting to a Vertical Transfer Writing Curriculum.” *International Writing Across the Curriculum Conference*. Minneapolis, MN. June 13, 2014.

“A Student-Centered Orientation of Writing Assessment: Student Self-Efficacy in Assessment and Placement.” *Conference on College Composition and Communication*. Indianapolis, IN. March 22, 2014.

“Ending Remediation: A Critical Discourse Analysis.” *Conference on College Composition and Communication*. Las Vegas, NV. March 15, 2013.

“Erasing Lines of White Privilege in Writing Center Work.” *International Writing Centers Association Conference*. San Diego, CA. October 25, 2012.

“Directed Self-Placement: Widening Institutional Gateways.” *Conference on College Composition and Communication*. St. Louis, MO. March 22, 2012.

“Surviving from the Ground Up.” *International Writing Across the Curriculum Conference*. Bloomington, IN. May 21, 2010.

“Learning on the Job: Junior WPAs Changing Instruction and Assessment across the Cal State System.” *Council of Writing Program Administrators Conference*. Denver, CO. July 12, 2008.

“Collaboration and Communication in Revising Writing across the Curriculum.” *International Writing Across the Curriculum Conference*. Austin, TX. May 29, 2008.

“Assessment, Placement, and Institutional Change: Strategies for Creating New Writing Realities.” *Conference on College Composition and Communication*. New Orleans, LA. April 4, 2008.

“Using Systems Thinking Theory to Transform Writing across a University.” *Conference on College Composition and Communication*. New York City, NY. March 23, 2007

“From the Ground Up: A Model for Building a Faculty-Centered WAC Program.” *National Writing Across the Curriculum Conference*. Clemson, South Carolina. May 19, 2006.

“Discourse across the Disciplines.” *Conference on College Composition and Communication*. San Francisco, CA. March 21, 2005

“WAC on the Web.” *National Writing Across the Curriculum Conference*. St. Louis, Missouri. May 22, 2004.

“The Art of Online Tutoring.” *International Writing Centers Association Conference*. Savannah, Georgia. April 11, 2002.

"Synchronous Conferences in Cyberspace." *Conference on College Composition and Communication*. Chicago, Illinois. March 21, 2002.

"Distance Learning and WAC: A National Survey." *National Writing Across the Curriculum Conference*. Houston, Texas. March 8, 2002.

"Teaching and Technology: New Contexts for WAC." *National Writing Across the Curriculum Conference*. Bloomington, Indiana. June 2, 2001.

"Research Writing Across the Curriculum." *Conference on College Composition and Communication*. Denver, Colorado. March 15, 2001.

"Hypertext Knowledge Webs: Connection as a Creative Act." *Conference on College Composition and Communication*. Minneapolis, Minnesota. April 14, 2000.

"Reimagining Multiculturalism in My Composition Classroom." *NCTE Convention*. Denver, Colorado. November 19, 1999.

Administrative and Professional Experience

Administrative Positions

Director of First-Year Composition, University of California, Davis, 2015-present

- Supervising and mentoring thirty first-year composition instructors
- Designing the common syllabus and course learning outcomes in collaboration with instructors
- Facilitating programmatic ePortfolio normings
- Designing and leading the annual hybrid course faculty learning community
- Editing the first-year composition student writing journal *Readings about Writing* (fycjournal.ucdavis.edu)
- Conducting instructor class visits
- Facilitating in-service faculty development workshops for first-year composition instructors
- Chairing the College of Letters and Science English Language and Literacies Committee

University Reading and Writing Coordinator, California State University, Sacramento, 2003-2015

- Chairing the Faculty Senate Reading and Writing Subcommittee
- Presenting campus-wide and departmental workshops on teaching reading and writing across disciplines
- Consulting with individual faculty and departments on writing and reading concerns
- Leading an annual summer faculty development retreat
- Facilitating semester-long faculty development seminars and reading groups
- Organizing the biannual Northern California Writing across the Curriculum Conference
- Publishing a Writing Across the Curriculum newsletter and website
- Editing an online journal of student writing across disciplines, *Writing the University*
- Managing the Writing Across the Curriculum budget

Writing Center Coordinator, California State University, Sacramento, 2008-2015

- Training, mentoring, and supervising a staff of forty tutors
- Developing and presenting classroom workshops on reading and writing topics

- Creating online synchronous tutoring
- Managing the University Reading and Writing Center budget and scheduling

Professional Experience

Reviewer, *College Composition and Communication, Research in the Teaching of English, Writing Program Administration, English for Specific Purposes, Journal of Response to Writing, Written Communication, Journal of Writing Research, Across the Disciplines, Composition Studies, Journal of Writing Assessment*

Chair, Association for Writing Across the Curriculum Mentoring Committee, 2018-2021

Board of Directors Member, Association for Writing Across the Curriculum, 2018-2021

Co-Chair, International Network of Writing Across the Curriculum Programs and CCCC INWAC Standing Group, 2015-2018

Editorial Board Member, *Writing Spaces*, 2018-present

Editorial Board Member, *Prompt Journal*, 2017-2020

Editorial Board Member, *The WAC Clearinghouse*, 2010-2019

Policy Analyst, National Council of Teachers of English, 2013-2017

President, Northern California Writing Centers Association, 2012-2014

Co-Chair, 2007 and 2013 Northern California Writing Centers Association Conferences. Sacramento, California. March 3, 2007 and April 13, 2013

Board Member, International Writing Centers Association, 2008-2010

Teaching Experience

University of California, Davis. Davis, California

Associate and Full Professor, University Writing Program, 2015-present

Courses taught:

UWP1: Introduction to Academic Literacies

UWP1Y: Introduction to Academic Literacies (hybrid and fully online)

UWP101: Advanced Composition

UWP390: Theory and Practice of University-Level Composition Instruction

UWP392: Teaching Composition Practicum

California State University, Sacramento. Sacramento, California

Assistant, Associate, and Full Professor, English Department, 2003-2015

Courses taught:

ENGL1A: College Composition

ENGL20: College Composition II

ENGL109W: Writing in the Disciplines (online)

ENGL120A: Advanced Composition

ENGL195A/410A: Writing Center Theory and Practice

ENGL220A: Teaching Composition in College

ENGL220C: Topics in Composition: Teaching Digital Literacies

ENGL220C: Topics in Composition: Writing Across the Curriculum Theory and Practice
 ENGL220D: Researching Teaching Writing
 ENGL410E: Internship in Teaching Composition at the Community College
 EDD615: Doctorate of Education Dissertation Proposal Seminar

Florida State University. Tallahassee, Florida
 Graduate Teaching Assistant, English Department, 1997-2003

Courses taught:

ENC1101: Freshman Composition and Rhetoric

ENC1102: Writing About Literature

ENC1145: Writing About Cyberspace

Invited Talks and Workshops

Keynote or Featured Speaker

- “Designing Writing Assignments to Encourage Critical and Creative Thinking.” Rocky Mountain Modern Language Association. Golden, Colorado. October 13, 2023.
- “Shifting Response to Writing from Teachers to Students: Results from a National Study of Peer Response and Student Self-Assessment.” Russell K. Durst Distinguished Lecture. University of Cincinnati. September 20, 2023.
- “The Benefits of Teaching Critical Thinking and Communication across the Curriculum.” Keynote address. General Education Theme Academies Faculty Development Day. University of North Carolina, Charlotte. May 17, 2023.
- “Encouraging Critical and Reflective Thinking through Response to Student Writing.” Keynote address. Writing & Thinking Institute. San Antonio College. January 27, 2023.
- “Promoting Critical and Creative Thinking through Low-Stakes Writing.” Celebration of Teaching Conference. University of Missouri. May 19, 2022.
- “Enhancing the Effectiveness of Response to Student Writing.” Keynote address. 3rd International Conference on Education and Linguistics. Online. May 12, 2022.
- “Writing and Critical Thinking: An Engaging Approach.” Keynote address, WAC Mini-Conference. Fort Hays State University. April 5, 2022.
- “Bridges to Bridges: Role of Community Colleges in Writing Transfer.” Keynote address, TYCA-West Conference. Truckee Meadows Community College. October 11, 2019.
- “The Benefits of a Vertical Transfer Writing Curriculum for Teachers and Students.” Keynote address, All Write Summer Symposium. Finger Lakes Community College. June 5, 2017.
- “Collaborating to Support Students in Writing across the Curriculum.” Featured speaker, Crossings Conference. University of Nevada-Reno. April 1, 2017.
- “Remixing Writing Assignments for Multiple Literacies.” Featured speaker, Communication, Rhetoric, and Digital Media Symposium. North Carolina State University. March 25, 2017.
- “Designing Writing Assignments for Critical Thinking across the Curriculum.” Keynote address, Writing Pathways to Disciplinary Learning Conference at IUPUI. Indianapolis, IN. September 16, 2016.
- “Writing Assignments across the Curriculum: Results of a National Study.” Invited talk. Stanford University. Palo Alto, CA. January 30, 2015.
- “Task, Purpose Audience: Designing Meaningful Writing Assignments in any Content Area.” Featured speaker, *Literacy, Literature, and the New California Framework Conference*. Sacramento, CA. January 31, 2014.
- “Assigning and Responding to Student Writing in any Content Area.” Featured speaker, Northwest Wisconsin Education Association. Eau Claire, Wisconsin. October 12, 2006.

Writing Across the Curriculum Workshops

- “Effective Teacher and Peer Feedback.” Sacramento City College. October 6, 2023.
- “Easy-to-Implement Strategies for Using Peer Response and Student Self-Assessment to Lighten your Workload as a Teacher.” University of Cincinnati. September 21, 2023.
- “Strategies for Using Writing to Increase Engagement and Critical Thinking in any Discipline.” University of New Mexico, Taos. February 14th, 2023.
- “Strategies for More Effective and Efficient Response to Student Writing: Shifting the Focus from Teachers to Students.” Celebration of Teaching Conference. University of Missouri. May 19, 2022.
- “Writing Across the Curriculum Workshops.” Westminster International University in Tashkent, Uzbekistan. Online weekly from February 22 to March 29, 2022.
- “Successful Collaborative Writing Projects in Online Environments.” California State University, Fullerton. Online. February 10, 2021.
- “Time-Saving Strategies for Responding to Student Writing.” University of New Mexico. February 17, 2020.
- “Designing Effective Writing Assignments” and “Responding Efficiently to Student Writing.” California State University Fullerton. February 7, 2020.
- “Teaching Authentic Genres” and “Three Simple Writing-to-Learn Tools for Helping Students Meet Your Learning Outcomes.” Arizona Western College. January 6, 2020.
- “Designing Effective Writing Assignments in any Discipline” and “Tutoring Across Disciplines: The Genre Awareness Approach.” Lewis University. January 18, 2019.
- “Designing Effective Writing Assignments in any Discipline.” North Carolina State University. March 26, 2017.
- “Designing Effective Writing Assignments in any Discipline.” Brigham Young University. February 23, 2017.
- “Designing Effective Writing Assignments Across Disciplines.” Fresno State University. February 17, 2017.
- “Easy-to-Implement Strategies for Improving Student Writing.” Marquette University. November 18, 2016.
- “Integrating and Teaching Writing across Disciplines.” WAC Institute, California State University Dominguez Hills, Carson, CA. February 25 and 26, 2016.
- “Designing Effective Writing Assignments.” Sweetland Writing Center. University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI. January 29, 2016.
- “WAC that Works: Effective Writing Assignments, Effective Writing Programs.” Rhode Island College, Providence, RI. January 13, 2016.
- “Strategies for Teaching Close Reading Across Content Areas.” Rescue Unified School District. Pleasant Grove Middle School, Rescue, CA. August 10, 2015.
- “Assignments by Design: Writing and Critical Thinking Across the Curriculum.” California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo. San Luis Obispo, CA. May 27-29, 2015.
- “Training Tutors to Work with Assignments across the Curriculum.” 2015 Northern California Writing Centers Association Conference pre-conference workshop. Fresno, CA. March 6, 2015.
- “Constructivist Assessment of Student Writing: What Should We Assess and Who Should Assess It?” Stanford University Program in Writing and Rhetoric. Palo Alto, CA. January 30, 2015.
- “Designing Engaging Writing Assignments.” California State University Northridge Composition Program. Northridge, CA. January 15, 2015.
- “Writing Across the Curriculum Workshop.” Georgia Military College. Milledgeville, GA. May 9-10, 2013.
- “Writing to Learn in Every Content Area.” Pleasant Grove Middle School. Rescue, CA. April 15, 2013.
- “Designing Online Learning for Multiple Literacies.” University of California, Davis Academic Technology Services. Davis, CA. January 25, 2013.
- “Writing to Learn.” Loyalton High School. Loyalton, CA. September 27, 2011.
- “Writing to Learn.” CSUS Reading Institute for Academic Preparation. August 20, 2011.
- “Preparing for College Reading and Writing.” Kennedy High School PTA. Sacramento, CA. May 10, 2011.
- “Reading and Writing Across the Curriculum.” Southwestern College. Chula Vista, CA. February 4, 2011.
- “Reading, Writing, and Researching in College.” Chavez High School. Stockton, CA. April 27, 2012 and April 28, 2010.
- “Rhetorical Reading and Writing.” CSUS Reading Institute for Academic Preparation. June 17, 2008 and June 9, 2007.

- “What is Writing Across the Curriculum?” New Community Jewish High School. West Hills, CA. November 2, 2007.
- “Responding to Student Writing in any Discipline.” University of Wisconsin, Eau Claire. October 13, 2006.
- “Integrating Writing Across the Curriculum.” Natomas Charter Middle School. August 29, 2006.
- “Time-Saving Techniques for Responding to Student Writing.” Sierra College. Rocklin, CA. August 21, 2006.
- “Expository Reading and Writing.” Early Assessment Program. Sacramento Valley High Schools. March 8, 2006; November 15, 2005; July 27-28, 2005.
- “Designing Successful Writing Prompts.” Will Wood High School Science Faculty. Vacaville, CA. November 30 and December 14, 2005.
- “Responding to Student Writing.” CSUS Reading Institute for Academic Preparation. October 21, 2005.
- “Building a Writing Across the Curriculum Program: Methods and Models for Improving Student Writing in the Disciplines.” James Madison University. October 7 and 8, 2005.
- “Using Writing to Improve Reading Across the Curriculum.” CSUS Reading Institute for Academic Preparation. June 24, 2005 and June 17, 2004.
- “Assigning, Responding, and Grading: Improving Student Learning in Any Discipline.” Humboldt State University. January 11 and 12, 2005.
- “Responding to Student Writing: Tips and Techniques for Teachers in any Discipline.” Sacramento Valley Writing Collaborative. November 9, 2004.
- “Assigning and Responding to Student Writing.” Natomas Charter Middle School. Sacramento, CA. October 4, 2004.

Awards and Grants

2021 Association for Writing Across the Curriculum/WAC Clearinghouse Best Authored Book Award for *Sustainable WAC: A Whole Systems Approach to Launching and Developing Writing Across the Curriculum Programs*

Association for Writing Across the Curriculum Distinguished Fellow Award, 2021. Given to scholars who have made a significant contribution to the field of Writing Across the Curriculum in a career that spans at least ten years.

2019-20 Conference on College Composition and Communication Research Initiative Grant, “Building Sustainable Writing Across the Curriculum Programs.” Coauthored with Michelle Cox and Jeffrey Galin.

2020 Aaron Swartz Award for Best Webtext, *Writing Commons*. “So Your Instructor is Using Contract Grading...”

Outstanding University Service Award, California State University Sacramento, 2014

Outstanding Graduate Career Award, Florida State University, 2002

Outstanding Dissertation Award, Florida State University, 2002