



TEACHING WRITING

Many South African second-language English speakers have well-developed oral skills, however some lack competent writing skills. Many teachers are faced with developing their students' writing skills, but lack the skills and knowledge required to effectively teach writing skills in the second or foreign language classroom. The Teaching Writing Skills course aims to develop the teaching of writing skills to second and foreign language students.

WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

- Native and non-native teachers of English
- Teachers of second language and foreign languages
- Teachers who are interested in developing the pedagogic knowledge and practice of teaching writing skills

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

To be registered on the Language Enhancement for Teachers course you need to fulfil all of the following requirements:

- Minimum of 18 years of age
- First language proficiency in English
- Minimum of a National Senior Certificate (Grade 12)
- A degree is highly recommended

COURSE OBJECTIVES

On completion of the course, candidates will:

- Have an understanding of the writing process
- Be familiar with different types of writing genres
- Have an understanding of the two main writing approaches
- Have developed the skills to teach the two main writing approaches

- Be familiar with students' problems with handwriting and spelling
- Have developed an awareness of the role of cohesion and coherence in writing
- Have developed correction and feedback skills for students' written work
- Have developed skills to encourage students to self-correct and edit their writing
- Have an understanding of the role of journal writing for students and teachers

COURSE CONTENT

1. Writing as a process

- From the beginning
- Why learn to write
- How people write
- Writing and speaking
- Implications for learning and teaching

2. Describing written text

- Different purposes, different writing
- Differences within a genre
- Text construction
- Cohesion
- Coherence
- Register
- Implications for learning and teaching

3. Writing in the language classroom

- Writing for learning
- Writing for writing
- The tasks of the teacher in writing

4. The nuts and bolts of writing

- The mechanics of writing
- The handwriting challenge
- Teaching handwriting
- The spelling challenge
- Teaching spelling
- Teaching pronunciation

LANGUAGE TEACHER EDUCATION

Launch your language teaching career
Develop yourself as a language teaching professional

- Copying
 - Sentence, paragraph and text
- 5. Teaching the process of writing**
- Process and genre
 - Generating ideas
 - Analysing genres
 - Making a plan
 - Examples of the writing process
 - Project work
 - Writing for exams
- 6. Responding, correcting and guiding**
- Ways of reacting to students' writing
 - Ways of correcting students' work
 - Ways of responding to students' work
 - Peer review
 - Training students to self-edit and self-correct
 - Making homework successful
- 7. Journal writing**
- A different kind of writing
 - Journal writing benefits
 - Before, during and after
 - Teacher journals

COURSE STRUCTURE

In the input sessions, our trained and experienced teacher trainers will cover theoretical aspects of the course, such as characteristics and needs related to teaching writing skills, teaching methodology and the basic principles of writing. The practical component provides trainees with the opportunity to plan and present activities, lessons and projects, using the knowledge acquired in developing their English skills. These practical sessions are observed by experienced trainers who provide constructive feedback and help you to develop your teaching writing skills.

TEACHING APPROACH

The Teaching Writing Skills course approach involves participatory learning, where trainees are very much involved in the learning and teaching process. Most input sessions will focus on trainees discovering new concepts and information relating to developing their teaching writing skills, through discussions, research, projects, activities and presentations.

COURSE DURATION

The Teaching Writing Skills course is a 40-hour contact course which includes observed and assessed teaching practice. The classes are held three evenings per week, running over a period of four weeks.

ASSESSMENT METHODS

Assessment is continuous and trainees are required to build and submit a portfolio of evidence for assessment, which will contain assignments, completed projects, micro teaching evidence and teaching practice lessons. Participation and attendance is also considered as a major part of assessment since you will be required to participate in several tasks, activities and presentations, either in groups or individually, throughout the course.

CERTIFICATION

On successful completion of the course, trainees will receive a Certificate of Competence in Teaching Writing Skills from the Wits Language School. The University of the Witwatersrand regards this as an NQF level 5 qualification.

2016 COURSE DATES

FULL-TIME

3 - 7 October (5 days)

COURSE FEE

R5 200

UNIT CONTACT DETAILS

Charmaine Gina - Senior Administrative Assistant

Tel: +27 (0)11 717 3753/4208

Fax: 086 521 7332

Email: wls@wits.ac.za

www.witslanguageschool.com

