Do you have a keen interest in writing in your discipline? Would you like to use writing more effectively to encourage critical thinking and student engagement in courses that you currently teach?

The Faculty Writing Fellows project provides six faculty members with the time and resources to examine writing in their disciplines, and to develop instructional approaches that foster the development of apprentice writers/thinkers in those disciplines. Teachers from Biology, Computer Science, Mathematics, Nursing, Economics, Engineering, Psychology, Interior Design and Social Services have already taken part in this project.

Participants for the Fall 2011 semester will receive the equivalent of one section of course release. Working independently, on-line and in a bi-weekly seminar/workshop, they will

- Examine the conventions and practices of writing in their disciplines, and reflect on their writing experiences as students, teachers and professionals.
- Review current research on the relationship between thinking and writing, and on effective instruction for specific disciplinary genres, and discuss in an on-line forum.
- Explore options for exploratory writing in and out of class.
- Examine strategies for formal assignment design that encourage revision throughout the writing process.
- Discuss ways of responding to student writing at different stages in the writing process.
- Compare different evaluation practices.
- Converse with guest specialists in disciplinary writing and composition.

At the end of the semester, participants will assemble a teaching portfolio that includes the following elements: reflections on writing in their disciplines, ideas for coaching student writers, several learning activities based on exploratory writing, one or two redesigned formal, writing-intensive assignments, and an evaluation rubric. These discipline-specific portfolios will be made available on-line to other members of the Dawson teaching community.

If you are interested in participating, please submit a brief letter that outlines your interest in writing in your discipline, and describes a course you currently teach in which you would like to support writing and critical thinking more effectively. Your letter of application should be submitted to Lisa Steffen <lsteffen@dawsoncollege.qc.ca> by February 28, 2011. Please notify your department chair of your application. Teachers with a full course load for Fall 2011 will be eligible for the Writing Fellows project.

**WID Working Group:**
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(Photograph found at [http://www.google.com/images?q=photos+dawson+college&hl]*)