

The Office of Faculty Development

Presents



A series of workshops dedicated to promoting an exchange of ideas about teaching and learning.

“How to Teach Writing Without Teaching Writing”

Friday, November 4, 2011

3:00-4:30 p.m.

Bemis 114 CD

Faculty at St. Norbert College believe in our writing program. We know that students learn writing best from experts in various disciplines and that writing is a skill we should not divorce from content. At the same time, we often worry that we cannot devote enough time to writing. We have so much to cover in our classes—how can we also mentor our student writers?

Fortunately, we teach academic argument—perhaps inadvertently—all the time. We ask students to read books in our disciplines. We analyze arguments in journal articles. We watch experts present the results of their research. When students encounter these models of academic argument, they can begin to understand and appropriate skills particular to writing in our fields.

This workshop will help faculty develop strategies to reinforce and develop their students’ writing skills while teaching content. We will discuss how small shifts of emphasis in our in-class discussions can supplement the direct writing instruction we do when commenting on students’ papers. We will also discuss models of effective assignments—both in-class and out—that marry writing and content instruction.

Facilitated by Ryan Cordell, this workshop will also leave ample time for participants to share experiences and ask questions.