

## Workshops and Consultations on Thinking and Writing

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### Mark your calendars:

**The CAC Alumni Event will be held Tuesday, April 29**

John Bean, Professor of English at Seattle University and author of Engaging Ideas: The Professor's Guide to Writing, Critical Thinking, and Active Learning in the Classroom (Jossey-Bass, 1996), will offer two workshops and several individual consultations with faculty on **January 28 and 29**.

On Tuesday, January 28, in 416 Daniel from 9:30-12:00, including lunch.

#### **Designing Short, Low-Cost, Problem-based Writing Assignments that Promote Inquiry, Active Learning, and Critical Thinking in the Classroom**

When asked to confront interesting and engaging problems, students come alive in the classroom. This interactive workshop focuses on ways to design short, problem-based writing assignments that will help students learn important concepts in your courses as well as skills of critical reading, analysis, and argument that are central to your discipline. The workshop will suggest a variety of low-cost ways for incorporating these tasks into your syllabus: as informal "thinking pieces," as microthemes, as tasks for small group problem-solving, or as short formal papers. We will also discuss time-saving ways of grading student performance and handling the paper load.

On Tuesday, January 28, in 416 Daniel from 1:30-4 pm, including light refreshments.

#### **From Novice to Expert: Teaching Writing in the Major Field**

The purpose of this interactive workshop is to develop strategies for accelerating students' growth as disciplinary thinkers and writers. To learn to write in a major field is to learn how to "think like a professional" in that discipline, that is, to think like an historian, psychologist, chemist, engineer, or nurse. Novices must learn how a discipline conducts inquiry—how its experts ask questions, form hypotheses, analyze evidence, examine alternative solutions, and make arguments. In this workshop we will look at the theory behind writing in the major fields, at issues of assignment design and sequencing, at methods for teaching undergraduate research in the field, and at specific strategies for helping majors improve their academic writing. The premise of the workshop is that attention to the design and sequencing of writing assignments—both within an individual course and within the major curriculum—can accelerate students' growth as professionals-in-training.

On Wednesday, January 29, in 418 Daniel. Professor Bean will meet with individual faculty in 45-minute consultations on ways to incorporate critical thinking and communication into classes.

For information and/or to sign up for workshops and consultations, please contact Angie Justice at 656-1520 or [ajstc@clemsun.edu](mailto:ajstc@clemsun.edu).

And two more workshops . . .

#### Talking Across Cultures: Talking to Students Effectively

This workshop will focus on how misunderstandings are created and—more importantly—how they can be prevented. Offered in January as part of our continuing series on diversity and communication.

#### Making the Most of Electronic Communication:

#### How Digital Communication (chatrooms, discussion boards, and e-mail lists) Makes Class Time More Productive

This workshop will focus on how electronic communication can extend and enhance classroom activities. Offered in February as part of our continuing series on technology and communication.

## ~~Final Studio Update

The Class of 1941 Studio for Student Communication is becoming a reality as much in its physical space as in its virtual space. The Studio now has its own newsletter and web site, and it will be from these venues that news of events and opportunities surrounding the Studio will come. Look for the first Studio newsletter in March and check out the Studio's new web site at <http://www.clemson.edu/1941studio>.

## Plagiarism Series to be Held in February and March

This spring, the Pearce Center again is offering three workshops on **Plagiarism and Academic Integrity** as part of the Rutland Center for Ethics-sponsored Presidential Colloquium on Academic Integrity and The Integrity of the Academy. The workshops are open to all faculty and staff.

**Plagiarism: Creating a Definition for Students That Communicates**, led by Dr. Teddi Fishman and Dr. Kathleen Yancey, will be offered at the end of February. This workshop will allow participants to define plagiarism within their fields and to outline "best practices" to help students create their own work (and avoid plagiarism).

**Plagiarism: Responsibilities for Students and Faculty** will be offered in early March. Dr. Art Young and Dr. Michael Neal will lead this second workshop as participants focus on helping students complete original assignments.

**Plagiarism: Possible Responses**, led by Dr. Kathleen Yancey, Dr. Michael Neal, and Dr. George Carter, will be offered in March. Participants will identify the possible responses to plagiarism and consider how to communicate information about plagiarism and its consequences to students.

Please contact Angie Justice at [ajstc@clemson.edu](mailto:ajstc@clemson.edu) or 656-1520 to register for these workshops.

## **Graduate Student Communication Workshops**

The Pearce Center continues to sponsor workshops with graduate students. In the fall, we offered one on making presentations and another on thesis proposals. We will repeat the workshop on thesis proposals this spring. We are also working with the Graduate School to create a one-day seminar on communication across various media for graduate students. For information on this initiative, please contact Melissa Tidwell at [mtidwel@clemson.edu](mailto:mtidwel@clemson.edu).

### HIGHLIGHTING

## THE CLEMSON DIGITAL PORTFOLIO

With the help of the Provost's office, the Clemson Digital Portfolio Project continues to grow. This term the Pearce Center, with the help of Donna Winchell, Shane Peagler, and Kathleen Meyer, will focus on a number of efforts, including

- working with students in English 109 to begin designing a digital portfolio for the major
- working with students in English 102 to continue developing various models of beginning portfolios
- working with students in Health 419 to develop portfolio models that can be used for internships
- interviewing students from across the disciplines to learn from them about the portfolios they have developed in classes and coop experiences and about how—and what—those portfolios have helped them learn

We will also interview students and begin to develop a Student Digital Portfolio Advisory Board.

Not least, in May the Pearce Center will offer two Digital Portfolio Workshops:

**Workshop One: May 7 and 8**  
**Workshop Two: May 12 and 13**

At these workshops, participants will learn about the basics of portfolios, the kinds (and ease) of the technologies that can be used, and ways to implement them in classes—and to grade them. Participants will also be paid a small stipend.

To learn more and/or to sign up, please contact Kathleen Yancey at [kyancey@clemson.edu](mailto:kyancey@clemson.edu), or 656-5394.