Teaching the Reading and Writing Requirements of Syllabuses in the Middle Years

Friday 20 March 2009 8.30am–4pm
Education Building, The University of Sydney, Camperdown

Content & Format

National and international research consistently shows that students’ learning plateaus in the middle years of schooling. Whilst there are a number of reasons for this, one factor that teachers can readily address is the increased literacy demands of upper primary and junior secondary syllabuses. To meet the syllabus requirements of all subject areas in these years, students need to be able to read and write a wide range of texts for an ever-increasing variety of purposes. Students need explicit teaching, guidance and support to increase their repertoire of reading and writing strategies to enable them to deal with the increased complexities of these texts.

This course has been designed to enhance teachers’ knowledge, skills and understandings of the literacy requirements of middle years classroom by focusing on:

- the reading process: addressing factors that make texts easy or difficult for readers, and classroom strategies for teaching reading, and
- the writing process: addressing supporting students to prepare for writing, and classroom strategies for teaching writing.

The course will be based on practical sessions that focus on the reading and writing requirements of participants’ teaching subjects.

The course will enable teachers to:

- articulate the reading and writing skills and understandings required by students to access content and achieve syllabus outcomes in their subject areas,
- recognise and take responsibility for teaching the reading and writing required for learning in their subject areas, and
- use a range of strategies to support and develop students’ reading and writing skills.

This course will include presentations, discussions and practical sessions based on the reading and writing requirements of participants’ teaching subjects.

Presenter

Bill Spence, BA, Dip Child Lit, has taught in primary schools, TAFEs and at universities. Bill has also held a number of regional and state office positions with the NSW Department of Education and Training. He has worked as a regional K–12 English consultant, a district literacy consultant, and has managed the State Literacy Strategy and implementation of the NSW Quality Teaching framework. Bill is a past president of the Primary English Teaching Association and is an Honorary Adjunct Senior Lecturer in the Faculty of Education and Social Work at the University of Sydney. Most recently Bill has written ‘Designing challenging reading strategies for students in the middle years’ in Beyond the Reading Wars (Robyn Ewing Ed.), and has co-authored Language Works: Grammar in context, books 1–6, for Cambridge University Press.

Fees (GST inclusive)

Individuals $200 | Groups $185 per person (2 or more registrations from the same school)

More information

Please contact Margaret Day – email: m.day@edfac.usyd.edu.au or phone: 9351 7031
Division of Professional Learning, Faculty of Education and Social Work, The University of Sydney
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Registration Form

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Education Building, Manning Road, The University of Sydney, Camperdown

Please print clearly, complete one form per person, and provide complete details where required

Title ______________ Name __________________________________________________________________________________________

School  __________________________________________________________________________________________________________

Mailing address  __________________________________________________________________________________________________

_____________________________________________________________________________________________ Postcode ___________

Work phone ______________________________ Fax ______________________________ Mobile _______________________________

Email ____________________________________________________________________________________________________________

Position _________________________________________________ Teacher Accreditation No. (if applicable) ______________________

Stage/s taught _____________ Curriculum area/s _______________________________________________________________________

Payment details

TAX INVOICE                  The University of Sydney                  ABN 15 211 513 464

Fee due (GST inclusive) Please select: INDIVIDUAL □ $200 or GROUP □ $185 per person (2 or more from the same school)

□ Attached is a CHEQUE payable to The University of Sydney or □ Debit my VISA CARD / MASTERCARD (please circle)

Cardholder name________________________________________________________________________ Amount $ ________________

Card number _________________ / _________________ / _________________ / _________________ Expiry date _______ /_______

Signature ___________________________________________________________________________ Date ______________________

CLOSING DATE for registrations and refunds for withdrawal: Seven (7) days prior to the event commencement date

FAX forms with credit card details to: (02) 9351 6249

MAIL forms with cheques to: Division of Professional Learning, Education Bldg A35, The University of Sydney NSW 2006

REGISTRATION ENQUIRIES to Margaret Day: m.day@edfac.usyd.edu.au  Ph: (02) 9351 7031

Terms & Conditions

The University of Sydney reserves the right to alter any arrangements or cancel an event or to refuse any registration as permitted by law. Should the University of Sydney cancel an event the participant will receive a full refund of fees. Refunds for withdrawal (less a $50 administration fee) are available only if notification is received in writing either by mail or email at least seven days prior to the start date. Please choose carefully as the University of Sydney cannot accept responsibility for changes in personal circumstances or work commitments.

Declaration

I have read and understand the terms and conditions and declare that the information I have provided is correct and complete.

Print name _____________________________________________ Signature __________________________________________ Date_____________

Survey

Please tell us how you found out about this event: □ Colleague recommendation  □ Brochure or flyer  □ Journal or newsletter

□ DPL website □ Other website □ Internet Search (eg. Google) □ Other: _____________________________________________

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