"Our middle school had an 18% increase in its writing scores on the state writing tests. With such success, this school year we have signed on for level two training, which includes peer observations and discussions, to continue this great progress."
— Middle School Administrator,
Portland Public Schools

State Writing Assessment scores from one area high school in which OWP has conducted professional development and coaching.				
	2008-09	**2009-10**	**2010-11**	**Change**
Ideas	46%	60%	62%	**+ 16%**
Organization	40%	52%	52%	**+ 12%**
Voice	65%	75%	75%	**+ 10%**
Word Choice	57%	68%	69%	**+ 12%**
Sentence Fluency	40%	52%	63%	**+ 23%**
Conventions	27%	35%	50%	**+ 23%**

Recent professional development programs have occurred in the following districts or schools — David Douglas, Evergreen, Newberg, Portland, Reynolds, West Linn/Wilsonville, Woodburn, as well as private schools.

For more information about Writing Improvement Across the Curriculum in your school, please contact:

Linda Christensen
Director, Oregon Writing Project
Lewis & Clark College — MSC 85
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Portland, OR 97219
503-768-6132 or 503-502-4379

Lewis & Clark
Graduate School of Education and Counseling
Oregon Writing Project
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Oregon Writing Project

Professional Development and In-Service Workshops:

Writing Improvement Across the Curriculum

Language Arts
Social Studies
Science
Math
Health & P.E.
Electives

Lewis & Clark
Graduate School of Education & Counseling
Center for Community Engagement

"Years after I began teaching social studies, I experienced OWP's four-week Summer Institute. Now I am beginning to understand how actually to teach writing so that all my students can be successful. Most importantly, I have learned that expository writing doesn't have to be boring. Instead, it can be personally relevant, interesting, and even fun to write."
– Beaverton Teacher & Former Administrator

Our writing professional development includes:

•Creating inservice plans, plus:

• Planning lessions that include, writing across the curriculum, including science, social studies and health.

• Analyzing student writing to determine strengths and patterns of errors.

• Developing collective agreements about common writing principles across the curriculum.

• Teaching demonstration lessons that focus on the writing process in essays and narratives.

• Working with teachers to develop genre craft lessons.

• Teaching explicit instructions on how to teach conventions and sentence fluency within context of student work.

What kinds of programs does OWP offer?

1. Multiple-session series of interactive workshops. Generally three hours long, these hands-on workshops focus on successful classroom-tested, research-based approaches to the teaching of writing and using writing to learn.

2. School-site coaching. Coaching is usually done in conjunction with a series of workshops. OWP coaches can provide services such as in-class teaching demonstrations, classroom observations followed by conferences and facilitation of teacher inquiry groups, curriculum work groups, and the study of student work.

3. On-site summer programs. OWP provides intensive summer programs where teachers learn more about teaching writing, explore and discuss current research, embed writing into curriculum units, and participate in their own writing. These programs can be designed to support school-site programs for students as well.

4. Summer writing academies for high-priority students. OWP coaches partner with school faculty in two- to five-week intensive programs to improve student writing as well as the teaching of writing.

Sample Programs

Professional Development Embedded in the School Day: OWP Teacher Leaders facilitate faculty, grade level, team or content area meetings that focus on the writing process, development of writing in the content areas, writing craft lessons, revisions, and editing. These are developed on site with administrators and faculty members.

Writing Curriculum Summer Institutes: This three- to five-day workshop begins with morning demonstration lessons on teaching the writing process, including craft lessons and revision strategies. During the afternoon, OWP coaches guide development of curriculum, embedding these strategies in novel study or in themes presented across the content areas.

Five- to Ten-Week, After-School Classes: All OWP classes focus on practical, classroom practices that help increase student achievement in literacy. Topics vary from session to session and are co-constructed with administrators and faculty. Credit is available for a tuition fee.

"My teaching was transformed after my introduction to the Oregon Writing Project which included ways I could incorporate reading and writing instruction into science curricula. Then, when I became a high school principal, I participated in the OWP four-week Summer Institute and am now using OWP strategies to improve teaching and learning within our school. I highly recommend this program to teachers in all content areas and to school administrators."
– Newberg/PPS High School Principal