

This list of readings and resources is meant to support the P2PU course “Writing 7 Common Core: Deeper Learning for All,” a course developed with the National Writing Project as an early entry in the P2PU School of Ed. This course, at its simplest, is a course for non-language arts teachers who want to further incorporate writing into their classes. But if you’re a language artist and you’ve found your way here, welcome. Glad you’re here, too.

I’m looking for readings that will lead participants into interesting directions, that will allow for discussion and exploration about the place of writing in teaching and learning. Oh, and, of course, what the Common Core Standards will mean for the teaching of writing in the public schools of the United States.

Below are a few readings and resources organized along two strands - writing across the content areas and writing for the disciplines. And this document is open. Feel free to add your own resources and readings. In fact, I’m counting on the idea that you’ll contribute. That’s part of the whole idea of P2PU.

If there were a textbook for this course, but there’s not, that textbook would be NWP’s Digital Is website, a collection of resources on and about writing and teaching and learning.

### **Writing Across the Content Areas**

*Writing habits are bigger than particular disciplines, courses, or teachers. We should be helping students to use writing as a tool for discovery and synthesis regularly. In this section are readings that folks would/should/could recommend to help teachers consider how to help students develop writing habits that live beyond particular classes, subjects, and instructors.*

- Youth Voices - Paul Allison - Paul’s explanation of his work to create Youth Voices - a blogging network for students that’s been around in some way for eight years. Students blog for multiple purposes for “real” audiences of their peers.
- Content Area Writing - Harvey Daniels, Steven Zemelman, and Nancy Steineke - Text on writing across the subject areas, divided in sections on writing to learn, informal social writing, short formal writing assignments, and longer formal writing. Examples are given for multiple subjects.
- Let’s Take Another Look at the Fish: The Writing Process as Discovery
- . Written by Bob Tierney, BAWP TC and science teacher, often quoted favorite writing to learn piece
- Rex, Lesley A.; Thomas, Ebony Elizabeth; and Engel, Steven, "Applying Toulmin: Teaching Logical Reasoning and Argumentative Writing" (2010). *Teacher Education*. Paper 2.
- Informing Writing
- Beach, Anson, Kastman-Breuch, & Swiss *Teaching Digital Writing Using Blogs, Wikis, and Other Digital Tools*



## Writing for the Disciplines

*This section of the course is about writing for the people that care deeply about the disciplines that you're teaching. This is the space to talk about research papers, and policy briefs. White papers and historical research. What are the texts and habits that are essential to your discipline, and how do you know? What readings would help teachers to think about these questions?*

*In the space below are readings that one might recommend to people who are exploring how to teach these types of texts - both the how tos and the teaching withs.*

- On Becoming Change Writers - Gail Desler and Pamela Bodnar - In this Digital Is collection that's about history and social action, the authors describe a way of exploration that has crept into their work with children.
- *Envisioning Knowledge: Building Literacy in the Academic Disciplines* Judith Langer
- *Envisioning Literature: Literary Understanding and Literature Instruction* Judith Langer
- *(Re)Imaging Content-Area Literacy Instruction* edited by Roni Jo Draper
- *Disciplinary Literacy: Why it Matters and What we Should do About it.* Elizabeth Birr Moje's keynote speech at the National Reading Initiative National Conference in 2010.
- *A Framework for K-12 Science Education: Practices, Crosscutting Concepts, and Core Ideas.* National Research Council, especially chapter 3, "Scientific and Engineering Practices" which argues for the role of writing as a core scientific and engineering practice.

## Writing Prompts

- Luke Neff has a great collection of visual writing prompts for students.
- One of his students has begun his own writing prompt collection.
- Every April, for National Poetry Month, I post a daily poetry prompt.

## Activities for Students

- Why I Write - A National Day on Writing Celebration - Figment, the National Writing Project, and the New York Times Learning Network team up to create an opportunity for student writers to celebrate the October 20th National Day on Writing.
- NaNoWriMo - Every November is National Novel Writing Month, and on this site you'll find some great scaffolds and other resources to help children and adults write a novel in the month of November. If screenwriting is more your thing, well, April is Script Frenzy.

## Questions That Muddy Things

*Whenever I teach writing, I am struck by questions that emerge in the middle spaces of the course. In this course, I've differentiated between writing for learning and writing for the disciplines - and I wonder about tools and habits that are for particular disciplines - so I just want*

*to leave a space in this resource document for thinking about questions that live in either both sections of the course or challenge the division. Let's voice the messiness.*

- Are science notebooks tools for learning or texts of the discipline of science?
- What habits of one discipline make sense in other disciplines?
- Should the disciplines be separated to begin with? Why?