

Prairie Lands Graduate Certificate in the Teaching of Writing

The Graduate Certificate in the Teaching of Writing is an 18 credit-hour program offered through Prairie Lands Writing Project (PLWP).

Required Core Courses (12 graduate credits):

- EDU or ENG 610 Prairie Lands Writing Project Invitational Institute (6 crs)
- EDU or ENG 512 Teaching Writing with Technology (3 crs)
- EDU or ENG 612 Seminar in Professional Writing for Teachers (Advanced Institute) (3 crs)

Elective Offerings (at least six credits from among the following courses):

- EDU or ENG 501 Topics in Teaching Writing (1-2 crs)
- EDU or ENG 502 Professional Learning Community (1-2 crs)
- ENG 503 Literature for Children (3 crs)
- ENG 500 Literature for Adolescents (3 crs)
- ENG 567 Grammar and the Teaching of Grammar (3 crs)
- ENG 573 History of the English Language (3 crs)

The program prepares teachers at all levels (K-12, college, adult) to use writing as a means of improving student learning. Teachers have the opportunity to write, revise, share feedback, and reflect on their own writing and teaching of writing as well as develop professional leadership skills. The Certificate is appropriate for teachers pursuing graduate credits to meet professional development requirements as well as for post-master's candidates who want a specialization in teaching writing. Fifteen of the 18 hours in the Certificate are required in Missouri Western's 33-hour MAS in Assessment: Writing Option; 12 of the 34 hours in the Certificate may be counted toward Missouri Western's 34-hour MAA in Written Communication: Writing Studies Option

Recommended Course Plan of Studies

Summer Year One	Complete EDU or ENG 610 Invitational Institute Apply: PLWP Certificate in the Teaching of Writing Program and/or MAS in Assessment Writing Option	6 credits
Fall Year One	Complete elective offerings as needed: EDU or ENG 501 Topics in Teaching Writing (1-2 credits) Check schedule to see if offered EDU or ENG 502 Professional Learning Community (1-2 credits) Check schedule to see if offered ENG 503 Literature for Children (3 credits) ENG 567 Grammar and the Teaching of Grammar (3 credits) Odd-numbered years ENG 573 History of the English Language (3 credits) Even-numbered years	3-6 credits
Spring Year One	Complete EDU or ENG 512 Teaching Writing with Technology (required course) Complete elective offerings as needed: EDU or ENG 501 Topics in Teaching Writing (1-2 credits) Check schedule to see if offered EDU or ENG 502 Professional Learning Community (1-2 credits) Check schedule to see if offered ENG 500 Literature for Adolescents (3 credits)	3-6 credits
Summer Year Two	Complete EDU or ENG 612 Seminar in Professional Writing for Teachers (Advanced Institute) (3 credits) (Required Online course) Complete elective offerings as needed: EDU or ENG 501 Topics in Teaching Writing (1-2 credits) Check schedule to see if offered EDU or ENG 502 Professional Learning Community (1-2 credits) Check schedule to see if offered	3-6 credits

How to Apply for the Certificate

- ❖ Apply online at www.missouriwestern.edu/graduate/admissions.html as a degree-seeking applicant for the Graduate Certificate in Writing at Missouri Western.
- ❖ Request official copies of all undergraduate and graduate transcripts to be sent to this address:
 - Graduate School Admissions Office – Missouri Western State University
 - 4525 Downs Drive – St. Joseph, MO 64507
- ❖ Pay the one-time graduate application fee of \$45
- ❖ Fill out Prairie Lands Writing Project Graduate Certificate Data Sheet available at www.missouriwestern.edu/plwp/Graduateapplicationform.pdf and attach:
 - Two pieces of your own writing: one must be related to writing and/or teaching writing.
 - Letter of recommendation from a principal, department chair, or colleague.
 - A professional resume.
- ❖ Send these application materials to
 - Jane Frick, Director, Prairie Lands Writing Project
 - Eder Hall 201 – Missouri Western State University
 - St. Joseph, MO 64507 by November 1, March 1, and/or August 1.

Applications will be reviewed by the PLWP Graduate Certificate Admissions Committee in mid-November, mid-March, and mid-August each year. Each accepted applicant will then meet with a MWSU faculty member for an advising conference, program planning, and course selection.

Prairie Lands Writing Project Graduate Certificate in the Teaching of Writing Admissions Committee:

- ❖ Dr. Jane Frick, MWSU English professor and PLWP site director
- ❖ Dr. Cindy Heider, MWSU Assistant Provost and PLWP Advisory Board member
- ❖ Mr. Thomas Pankiewicz, MWSU English instructor and PLWP institutes director
- ❖ Dr. Elizabeth Sawin, MWSU English professor and Honors Program director and PLWP Teacher Consultant
- ❖ Dr. Melody Smith, St. Joseph School District superintendent and PLWP Advisory Board member

