

Call for Proposals:

Naylor Workshop for Undergraduate Research in Writing Studies

York College of Pennsylvania

September 15 – 17, 2017

The Naylor Workshop is designed to provide participants with methods and mentorship for moving your research project forward. Whether you simply have an initial research question related to how we teach writing and advance literacy education, or you have begun a project and are ready for further advice, guidance, and critique, this three day workshop allows you to take that next step, and helps you to find a network of other undergraduate researchers in Writing Studies.



We are currently accepting proposals to attend the 2017 Naylor Workshop for Undergraduate Workshop in Writing Studies.

Travel and Lodging Grants: To make it possible for undergraduate researchers to gather at York College to learn the goals, research methods, and best practices of our discipline, we are happy to support financially travel and lodging expenses associated with participation in the workshop.

Through the generosity of our donor, we are able to provide **housing for two nights free of charge** for invited attendees, as well as all conference meals.

In addition, while we encourage attendees to seek funding from their home institution, we can **provide reimbursement for travel to the conference for up to \$150 per accepted attendee and in some cases for their mentors.** (We may be able to provide a bit more, depending upon budget, when the need exists or for those travelling from longer distances.)

To be eligible for the housing and travel grant, interested undergraduates must submit a proposal by the deadline noted below.

The purposes of the proposal are 1) to give you the opportunity to describe an area of study that you currently have underway, or an area of study that interests you; 2) to articulate the goals and methods of such a research project—at least as you are imagining it now; and 3) to discuss the potential impact of that research.

Any topic related to how we advance literacy and literacy education (broadly understood) is welcome: work done in a writing major, minor, concentration, or course; practices as a writing tutor or writing fellow; multi-modal composing; community-based literacy work; the social impact of rhetorical practices; or many other possibilities. So, for example, you might propose work that:

- suggests a new approach to Writing Center theory or practices;
- questions current or suggests new classroom teaching techniques;
- proposes community-based projects related to literacy;
- examines impact of various technology upon writing/literacy;
- studies the impact of our teaching on underrepresented groups;
- demonstrates the relationship between literacy and social justice or civic engagement.

These are only examples. Please feel free to extend the boundaries of writing and literacy issues in whatever way you find appropriate.

The proposal form, which you can access [HERE](#) will walk you through a series of questions that can help you describe your proposed work to us. If your proposal is accepted, it will also help the faculty mentors to prepare to help you move that work forward in advance of the workshop.

Any questions, just contact Dr. Dominic DelliCarpini at: naylorworkshop@ycp.edu

Some Further Guidelines:

Your proposal should help us to understand your topic, why it can help to advance the teaching of writing and/or literacy education more generally, and should provide us with your early thoughts on methods for how this topic might best be studied. A successful research proposal will demonstrate:

- 1) That you have a focused question that you will study systematically. What problem or burning question(s) do you have? Why is it important for us to address this problem or question? How will it benefit our work?
- 2) Your interest in, and knowledge of, composition, rhetoric, professional writing, or teaching and tutoring writing. What have you done or studied that provides the motivation to do this work? What has intrigued you as you entered this field of study?
- 3) Thoughtful reflection upon an area of composition research that could benefit the work we do as writing teachers. You can use your previous experience in classes or as a tutor to provide this background.
- 4) Evidence of your investigation into this topic, even if your project is in the early stages of development or is based more on experience than study. Has the topic arisen through your work as a writing tutor or fellow? Through a class in the discipline? Through your own experiences toward becoming a writer?
- 5) In keeping with the mission of this endowment, we are also interested in learning about how your research can help us use the learning, teaching, or practices of composition to contribute to a literate and informed citizenry, to the achievement of social justice, and to equal access to education.
- 6) **We are looking primarily for innovative ideas, so experience with undergraduate research is *not mandatory or expected to take part in this workshop*. However, if you have had some experience, please let us know what experience you have had.** For example, you may have taken a course on research methods, conducted a research study as part of a course, or presented research at a local, regional, or national conference. If so, let us know. If not, you could just let us know what your goals are after completing the research: Do you wish to present at a conference? Write an article for a particular publication? Complete the project for a class or presentation at your college?

For full consideration, your application for attendance and travel grants must be submitted by May 31st, 2017.

You can complete the application form at: <https://webform.ycp.edu/cce/view.php?id=45348>

You will receive a confirmation email when your proposal has been received. **Then, we will email you to let you know if your proposal has been accepted by the end of June or early July.**

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**About the Naylor Workshop:** This workshop is made possible through the generosity of Mr. Irvin S. Naylor, successful entrepreneur and stalwart benefactor of York College. Mr. Naylor both represents and supports the belief that a strong democracy is necessarily based in literate citizenry.

As noted in the *Framework for Success in Postsecondary Writing*, a document created and endorsed by the Council of Writing Program Administrators, the National Council of Teachers of English, and the National Writing Project, it is a “central premise that teaching writing and learning to write are central to education and to the development of a literate citizenry.”

To help enact those core beliefs, the ***Naylor Workshop for Undergraduate Research in Writing Studies*** invites research proposals on any research topic that can help to advance the work of literacy education.

To learn more about the Naylor Workshop for Undergraduate Research in Writing Studies, please visit our website: <http://mschoett.wix.com/naylorconference>