

A colloquium based on the teaching of English 180  
Required for all beginning teaching assistants

Dr. Alice Robertson  
Phone: 298-2136 office  
10:00-11:00 W

836-9210 home

Email: AB-Robertson@wiu.edu

Office Hours: 11:00-12:00 TT

& by appointment

TEXTS: *Nuts and Bolts*

*Conflicts and Crises in the Composition Classroom*

*Teaching Composition: Background Readings*

*Reading Critically, Writing Well*, 6th ed.

POLICIES:

- Attendance is required. More than 4 absences lowers your grade. Six fail you for the course.
- Formal and informal papers are due on the assigned date. See me before that time if you can't meet the deadline.
- All writing assignments (except journals) are to be typed, double-spaced.
- Participation is essential and an integral part of your grade.

REQUIREMENTS:

- A teaching journal with Before and After format - due 4 times during the semester (see syllabus)
- 1-page response paper for each assigned reading, due the day reading is discussed
- 2-3 page descriptive account of classroom observations of a fellow TA's class
- 2-3 page summary of your mid-term class evaluations
- case study of yourself as a teacher - 5-7 page narrative/essay based on teaching journal
- collaborative and individual student presentations of weekly lesson plans - TBA

GRADING:

Informal response papers	70 points
Observation description	30
Case study	30
Lesson plan demonstration	30
Midterm evaluation summary	30
Teaching journal	<u>50</u>
	240 points

We have two 75-minute classes per week, meeting at 2:00 Tuesday and Thursday.

Tuesdays will sometimes operate in a split format, with 35 minutes assigned for discussion of our assigned reading and 40 minutes allotted for a guest speaker on a specific issue (see syllabus for schedule). Reading response papers are due at the end of reading discussion on the day assigned. See syllabus for other assignment dates.

Thursdays will be devoted to teaching demonstrations for the following week of 180 classes. I will handle the first 6 weeks - week 1 of 180 will be covered in Orientation, week 2 in the first week of classes, week 3 in the second week, etc. Beginning the sixth week of the semester, you will take over these presentations. To ease into it, the first two will be collaborative presentations. In groups of 2 and 3 you will collaboratively present weeks 7 and 8. Weeks 9 through 13 will be presented individually.

ABR/jlh