

EmPOWER™ Writing Institute

An online course, July 2020 - January 2021

Too many students struggle with academic writing.

Great teachers and proven methods can make a difference!

Join a group of dedicated educators this summer who want the same thing you do: for their students to have what it takes to write well.

The EmPOWER Writing Institute — a live course held online — will give you the teaching methods and strategies you need so your students excel.

The EmPOWER™ method

- ◆ Gives you the structure for teaching academic writing that takes the mystery out of it
- ◆ Gives you ways of explaining abstract concepts about how language works in a way that kids can understand
- ◆ Gives you proven strategies you can use in *every grade, every content area*, and with students of *all ability levels* to help students get started, organize their language, think critically, and express themselves clearly
- ◆ Decreases students' anxiety about writing and increases their confidence



If this is you, this course is for you

- ◆ A high performing general or special educator in grades 2-12
- ◆ Responsible for teaching academic writing in your content area
- ◆ Dedicated to taking your students to the next level as effective writers

This course is intense, and it's hands on. You will delve deeply into the "how" of teaching writing, grapple with abstract concepts that your students also have trouble understanding, and discover new ways of making language and text accessible to your students.

You will work hard. You will want to.

You will be stretched, inspired, and energized. And you will leave different than you arrived – eager to return to your classroom with a new vision for teaching students to write and the tools you need to guide their growth.

Course Overview

All instruction is online. Access it from anywhere!

JULY 6-10, 2020. 8:30-4:30* each day, and one evening

5 days of live instruction, jam packed with new concepts and teaching strategies.

- ◆ **Day 1:** Evaluate and make a Plan: Harnessing self-talk for getting started
- ◆ **Day 2:** Organize: Brain Frames strategies for making language stand still
- ◆ **Day 3:** Strengthening writing through reading for details and big ideas
- ◆ **Day 4:** Work, Evaluate and Re-work: Paragraph-level writing
6:00-8:00 PM roundtable discussion with the authors of EmPOWER
- ◆ **Day 5:** Work, Evaluate and Re-work: Multi-paragraph writing
- ◆ The week offers tons of hands-on practice and real-time collaboration with classmates as well as dedicated time to work what you learn into your own curriculum. Three projects are to be completed in the evenings.

Plus support through the school year

- ◆ 6 on-demand webinars that take your instruction even further. You can access them whenever it works for you.
- ◆ 4 live instructor coaching sessions: 9/22, 10/27, 12/15, and 1/26, 4:30 – 5:30*.

**All class times listed are Central Time*

Less listening. More doing.

Looking for graduate credit?

If so, you can get 3 graduate course credits through Endicott College for an additional \$300.00 (payable to Endicott, not us). Grades will post in June 2021.

Looking for PDPs instead?

We'll give you a certificate for 45 PDPs at the end of the course.

The concepts you learn here last a lifetime!

As a graduate, you will gain access to a cohort of empowered teachers who are dedicated to shaping the next generation of literate citizens.

Teachers are talking

"Before EmPOWER, writing was writing – there was a time and place for it. Now, writing is thinking – the time and place is all day, every day...and my students get it!"

~ Shadi T. Elementary School Teacher

"I found the course and the EmPOWER method to be outstanding. It has transformed my classroom more than any other professional development that I have done."

~ Tom S. Middle School Social Studies Teacher

"Taking the EmPOWER class answered a great deal of my questions and put to rest all reservations I had about teaching writing. For one thing, it gave me the language I desperately needed to teach my students. I developed an eye for many of the behind-the-scenes difficulties kids were having, difficulties that had to do not with grammar and spelling, but with managing the planning, organizing, and holding processes necessary to create a text."

~ Greg S. Middle School English Teacher

"Now I spend a lot less time clarifying, and students spend more time working independently."

~ Elisa P. Special Educator, Grades 3-8.

EmPOWER Writing Institute

Registration: July 2020 - January 2021

Name: _____

Home Address: _____

Email: _____

*Please use a personal email to avoid problems with school firewalls

Cell #: _____

Place of work: _____

Location: _____
City State Country

Your Title: _____ Grade level(s) you teach: _____

ALL of the above fields are required. We will not share your contact information. PROMISE!

Tuition \$2,705 includes \$200.00 of teaching materials

Send us your registration form

Architects For Learning
160 Gould Street, Suite 203
Needham Heights, MA 02494

office@architectsforlearning.com



Questions? We're here for you
781-235-8412

office@architectsforlearning.com

Indicate your payment method

- School purchase order.** Mail or email us a P.O. along with *Registration* and *I get it, and I'm in!*
- Check or money order.** Mail us a check with *Registration* and *I get it, and I'm in!*
- Credit card.** Mail or email us *Registration* and *I get it, and I'm in!* We will email you an online invoice (link to PayPal). All major credit cards accepted. You don't need a PayPal account to use this option.

Graduate credit

For those seeking graduate course credit, registration forms and instructions will be issued when the course begins. Course ends 1/26/2021. Endicott College will post grades by June 2021.

Tuition is fully refundable up to 15 days before the course starts, less a \$500 non-refundable deposit.

I get it, and I'm in!

Technical: Classes will meet via Zoom, and assignments will be submitted via Google docs and Slack.

Use of a computer with reliable internet access and a fully functioning webcam and microphone are required. We must see you and hear you at all times. **You may not access live classes by phone.**

We will email you a link to log into the class within 24 hours of when it starts. On the first day, please plan to log in 10 minutes early so that you have time to troubleshoot any technical problems.

You must download the Slack app and create a user profile prior to the first class. At the outset of the course, we will invite you to join your class' private Slack channel. You must accept this invitation.

Schedule: Full-day classes will be given short breaks mid-morning and mid-afternoon and a longer break for lunch. Please refrain from eating full meals during class time.

Participation: Though this course meets online, we will strive to create a classroom atmosphere. Learning within live classes will involve a blend of direct instruction, whole-group collaborative activities, small group cooperative activities, and independent work. Your active participation is essential in all formats. You will receive feedback and support from your instructor as well as your classmates.

As background noise disrupts a positive learning experience, please be in a stationary location (i.e., not in transit) that is free from distractions of other people and pets.

Assignments: Work with your own curriculum will be assigned in class, and three assignments are to be completed on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday evening of the first week of class. These should take approximately one hour each to complete. Through the school year, we may request that you use the class' private Slack channel to share work samples from your classroom. Slack links to Google docs, which makes this very easy. A final written reflection is due by 11:59 PM CT on the last day of class, 1/26/2021.

Grades: All participants are held to the same grading standards. Successful completion of the course requires attendance at all classes (60%), participation (20%), and completion of assignments (20%).

Student work: Research shows that learning outcomes can be improved by examining models and work examples. Participants acknowledge that excerpts of their work may be shared with others for instructional purposes.

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I get it, and I'm in! **Your Name:** _____ **Date:** _____