

Plenary Speakers



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WAC and Critical Thinking: Exploring Productive Relationships

Abstract

Writing Across the Curriculum (WAC) activities are often characterized as useful strategies for enhancing student learning. In this talk, WAC activities are considered as critical thinking activities. Drawing on Bloom's taxonomy of cognitive skills as modified by Anderson and Krathwohl (2001), the speaker considers three types of WAC activities – writing to learn, writing to engage, and writing to communicate – in terms of how they can contribute to both language learning and disciplinary learning. These types of activities are also explored in terms of how they might be used in related areas, such as courses that incorporate design activities, presentations, and research activities.