

PURDUE UNIVERSITY CALUMET
EDCI 589 Professional Development Workshop
Fall, 2010

COURSE TITLE:
6-Traits of Writing; An Introduction

CREDIT HOURS:

1 Credit

FEE:

\$268.90

Check made payable to Purdue University Calumet. Credit card payments are also available.

INSTRUCTOR(S)

Brady Smekens, Smekens Education Solutions, Inc.
Kristina Smekens, K-12 Literacy Consultant

All course assignments are due within 10 days of the workshop attended.

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Workshop Overview

In this dynamic one-day workshop, Kristina Smekens provides K-8 teachers with the knowledge and tools they need to start teaching the 6-Traits of Writing right away. Whether you need to learn a lot about the 6-Traits in a hurry, or want a “refresher” course to get you back on track, this introductory workshop provides teachers with the confidence and resources to begin implementing this powerful writing model.

Training topics:

- This introductory course starts first with “What are the 6-Traits” and “Where did they come from?”
- Participants will explore the power of the 6-Traits as a common language that unifies grade-level academic writing standards.
- Correlations will be made between the 6-Traits and the expectations on state writing assessments.
- Participants will receive classroom-tested mini-lessons to introduce and teach the 6-Traits.
- Strategies for scoring writing with the 6-Traits rubric will be unveiled.
- Participants will learn a simple method for converting rubric scores to grades.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS & EVALUATION:

Participants will attend a 6-hour class. A minimum of 9 additional hours must be dedicated to completing the course project outside of class.

For the course project, participants write a reflective paper outlining key priorities for implementing the 6-Traits into their own classroom.

Participants will identify THREE strategies for implementing the 6-Traits within their own classroom. Some ideas from the training that might be chosen include:

- Creating an environment to support the 6-Traits
- Getting organized--- plans to organize writing lessons, picture books, anchor papers, and other resources to help the trait teacher
- Planning writing units/ writing projects to incorporate the 6-Traits
- Introducing and utilizing writing rubrics as a means to assess student writing

The written explanation should answer questions like: *How will you accomplish this strategy? Do you need anything (resources, time, money, supplies) in order to accomplish this strategy? When will you accomplish this strategy? Why is this strategy a priority for you? How will this strategy help you with your teaching of writing?*

SETUP & PAGE LENGTH:

- Organize the write-up by strategy (Strategy #1, Strategy #2, Strategy #3)
- Maximum is two pages per “task”. Do not exceed 6 pages; no minimum requirement

GRADING: This is a pass/fail course.