



# TEACH WRITING WITH TECH

*AN ONLINE CLASS*

with Jacqui Murray



## **Teach Writing with Tech**

*Use technology to super-charge writing lessons*

*By Ask a Tech Teacher*

### **Description**

Educators participate in this three-week hands-on quasi-writer's workshop as they learn to use widely-available digital tools to help their students develop their inner writer. Resources include videos, pedagogic articles, lesson plans, projects, and virtual face-to-face meetings to share in a collaborative environment. Strategies introduced range from conventional tools such as quick writes, online websites, and visual writing to unconventional approaches such as Twitter novels, comics, and Google Earth lit trips. These can be adapted to any writing program be it 6+1 Traits, Common Core, or the basic who-what-when-where-why. By the time educators finish this class, they will be ready to implement many new tools in their classroom.

#### **Course includes:**

- virtual meetings
- 3 weeks
- videos
- Lesson plans
- class etext
- Hall of Fame articles
- Unlimited questions/ coaching during pre-arranged times.
- Certificate of Completion

Assessment is project-based so be prepared to be fully-involved and an eager risk-taker. Class takes place in Google Classroom.

# Course Objectives

At the completion of this course, educators will be able to:

1. Use authentic activities and project-based learning to teach writing skills
2. Use traditional and non-traditional approaches to build an understanding of excellent writing and nurture a love of the process
3. Reinforce Common Core writing standards in exciting new ways
4. Guide students in selecting writing strategies that differentiate for task, purpose, and audience
5. Incorporate peer review to analyze and improve writing
6. Assess student writing without discouraging creativity
7. Provide students with effective feedback

## What You Get With Enrollment

- 3 weeks
- 3 virtual meetings
- videos
- lesson plans
- class etext
- Hall of Fame articles
- Unlimited questions/coaching during pre-arranged times. We stay until everyone leaves. If you need extra help, we'll arrange that also.
- Certificate of Completion

*Sample certificate received at completion of course*



All resources used in the class are available to you forever for review and reference.

## Course Highlights

Class is three weeks, about five hours a week plus a weekend virtual meeting.

During the week, review lesson plans, ebooks, articles, and videos that address the weekly topics. Complete activities (blog posts, comments, and a weekly project). Collaborate as needed with classmates.

Weekends, discuss issues in a group setting via virtual meetings. Questions you'll discuss include "What is your favorite digital writing tool and why?" and "How does technology achieve writing standards without tons of writing?"

Need help on a topic not addressed? Arrange 1:1 time with instructors.

At the course end, receive a certificate of achievement listing all topics you completed.

## How Class Works

Each week, review materials on themed activities including videos, short articles, sample lessons plans, and ebooks. Complete one weekly project using what you learned and add it to your blog or digital portfolio. This may be done individually or collaboratively. Reflect on the week's activities via a blog post; comment on those of fellow students. Track your progress via a Google Spreadsheet (link provided).

Weekends, meet with classmates and the teacher at virtual meetings to discuss activities, answer questions, and review overarching topics like "How do you wake up a love of writing in students who think they hate to write?"

## Who Needs This

This course is designed for educators who:

- *are looking for new ways to help students unlock their inner writer*
- *have tried traditional writing methods and need something else*
- *need to differentiate for varied needs of their diverse student group*
- *want to—once again—make writing fun for students*

## What You Need to Participate

- Internet connection
- accounts for a blog, Google, various web-based tools
- commitment of 5-10 hours per week for 3 weeks
- risk-takers attitude, inquiry-driven mentality, passion to optimize learning

- a basic knowledge of word processing. We won't take time to teach these programs, but are more than happy to answer questions and solve specific problems that arise as you use them in this course.

**NOT** Included:

- software and webtool membership (if any)
- assistance setting up hardware, network, infrastructure, servers, internet, headphones, microphones, phone connections, software

## Mentors

Webinars, virtual meetings, and Q&A are mentored by the Ask a Tech Teacher crew. Master Teacher will be Jacqui Murray.



**Ask a Tech Teacher** is a group of technology teachers who run an award-winning resource [blog](#) where they provide free materials, advice, lesson plans, pedagogic conversation, website reviews, and more to all who drop by. The free newsletters and website articles help thousands of teachers, homeschoolers, and those serious about finding the best way to maneuver the minefields of technology in education.



**Jacqui Murray** has been teaching K-18 technology for 25 years with over a hundred publications and hundreds of webinars and articles on technology-in-education. She is a Master Teacher, adjunct professor, an Amazon Vine Voice reviewer, CAEP reviewer, CSTA presentation reviewer, and a weekly columnist for various online ezines such as TeachHUB.

## What Teachers Say About Ask a Tech Teacher Classes

*LOVING all I'm learning!!*

*I am so glad that I took this course. I was pushed out of my comfort zone to try many new tools. The course helped me relate to my students as a learner and risk-taker. Fantastic materials that will really help me redesign our middle school computer curriculum in the coming year. Thanks!*

*This was a wonderful class with tons of resources for teachers, and an excellent way to add to your Professional Learning Network!*

*As a new "tech" teacher, this course was just what I needed to get me acquainted with various web tools and how to teach tech to all students. I learned SO MUCH!*

*Your summer PD course has really lit a fire under me!*

## Price

**\$750.00** For a school or District group of 5-9

Need help? Email [AskaTechTeacher@gmail.com](mailto:AskaTechTeacher@gmail.com)

# Introduction

## Here's how to prepare for "Teach Writing With Technology":

- Browse the Google Classroom. It is private so no one can access it but our class. This is where you will post projects, have discussions with classmates, and explore skills you'll need for class (such as how to participate in a Google Hangout). It will be a safe way to communicate with your new PLN—Professional Learning Network. You will create your own digital portfolio page the first week of class and use it to reflect, journal, and embed projects completed during class.
- Preview the class etext, lesson plans, videos, and articles.
- Need help? Email me at [AskaTechTeacher@gmail.com](mailto:AskaTechTeacher@gmail.com).
- Links change. For a dead link, email [AskaTechTeacher@gmail.com](mailto:AskaTechTeacher@gmail.com).

## General notes:

- Expect to be a risk taker. We won't rush in to solve your problems. We want you to experiment, try options, just as we ask students to do.
- We don't want projects to be perfect—just attempted. It will assist you in finding what suits your teaching style and your class. Attaining a Certificate level in this class is based on effort, not perfection. Try-fail-try again characterizes top students.
- Welcome mistakes—don't apologize for them. Fearlessly confront an error, think it through, and revel in the resolution.
- Use technology domain-specific vocabulary when possible.
- If you have an alternative approach that works better for your unique situation, let us know. Chances are, we'll be fine with it.