

**REQUEST FOR YOUR PARTICIPATION IN RESEARCH
(Students)**

TITLE OF THE STUDY

An Investigation of the Value of Embedded Supplemental Writing Instruction in 100W Courses

NAMES OF THE RESEARCHERS

Thomas A. Moriarty, Ph.D., Professor of English, Director of Writing Across the Curriculum and Director of Writing Fellows Program

Michelle Hager, M.A., Director of the SJSU Writing Center and Director of Writing Fellows Program

PURPOSE

This projects studies the value of supplemental writing instruction – in the form of Writing Fellows – in 100W courses. The initial research on Writing Fellows programs is promising, and the literature to date offers a solid foundation of support, based primarily upon qualitative case studies. (See, for example, the 2008 Special Issue of *Across the Disciplines*, “Rewriting Across the Curriculum: Writing Fellows as Agents of Change in WAC,” and Spiegelman and Grobman’s 2005 book, *On Location: Theory and Practice in Classroom-based Writing Tutoring*.)

In order to fully understand the potential of Writing Fellows programs, however – that is, to fully understand the added value of embedded models of supplemental instruction versus traditional drop-in models – we need quantitative comparative studies that tease out the various factors that lead to student success.

This project addresses this gap in our knowledge by conducting a year-long quantitative empirical study of Writing Fellows in 100w classrooms at a large, public, Masters-comprehensive university in the west. The goal of this project is to provide empirical data on the value of Writing Fellows programs that can be used by writing program administrators on campuses throughout the nation.

PROCEDURES

As a participant in this study, you will be asked to respond to 3 short online surveys over the course of the academic year. The surveys will ask you about your writing in this course and the kinds of instructional activities you thought helped you to become a better writer. Each survey will take 10-15 minutes to complete and will be administered online via Qualtrix. You will also be asked to submit copies of your drafts and final drafts of papers written for this Stretch English courses. You will be asked to submit copies of your papers via Qualtrix.

POTENTIAL RISKS

There are no potential risks to you by participating in this study.

POTENTIAL BENEFITS

Your participation in this study will improve writing instruction at San José State University and, potentially, all across the country.

COMPENSATION

You will be eligible for random drawings for gift cards by submitting papers for this study.

CONFIDENTIALITY

All survey data will be collected anonymously. All survey data will be stored on the Principal Investigator’s computer, which will be kept locked up when not in use. Only the Principal Investigator and the other Investigators will have access to the survey data.

Sample papers will not be collected anonymously, but all results from analyses will be reported anonymously. Each paper will be stripped of all identifying information and assigned a number before analysis. The key matching identifying information with numbers will be kept on the Principal Investigator’s computer, which will be locked up

when not in use. Only the Principal Investigator and the other Investigators will have access to the sample papers and resulting analysis data.

We anticipate reporting data from student samples in two different forms. The first will aggregate the data from student papers students in sections of Stretch English which are not supported by Writing Fellows and compare it with aggregated data from student papers in supported sections. The second will aggregate and compare various kinds of student success data (GPA; persistence after 1, 2, and 3 years; time to completion of degree) between the two groups.

PARTICIPANT RIGHTS

Your participation in this study is completely voluntary. You can refuse to participate in the entire study or any part of the study without any negative effect on your relations with San Jose State University. You also have the right to skip any question you do not wish to answer. This consent form is not a contract. It is a written explanation of what will happen during the study if you decide to participate. You will not waive any rights if you choose not to participate, and there is no penalty for stopping your participation in the study.

QUESTIONS OR PROBLEMS

You are encouraged to ask questions at any time during this study.

For further information about the study, please contact Dr. Thomas A. Moriarty, Thomas.moriarty@sjsu.edu, 408-924-4515.

Complaints about the research may be presented to Dr. Shannon Miller, Chair of the English Department, shannon.miller@sjsu.edu, 408-924-4518

For questions about participants' rights or if you feel you have been harmed in any way by your participation in this study, please contact Dr. Pamela Stacks, Associate Vice President of the Office of Research, San Jose State University, at 408-924-2479.

SIGNATURES

Your signature indicates that you voluntarily agree to be a part of the study, that the details of the study have been explained to you, that you have been given time to read this document, and that your questions have been answered. You will receive a copy of this consent form for your records.

Participant Signature

Participant's Name (printed)

Participant's Signature

Date

Researcher Statement

I certify that the participant has been given adequate time to learn about the study and ask questions. It is my opinion that the participant understands his/her rights and the purpose, risks, benefits, and procedures of the research and has voluntarily agreed to participate.

Signature of Person Obtaining Informed Consent

Date