2012 Dartmouth Summer Seminar for Composition Research Application

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This summer seminar is designed to support members of our field who would like to engage in different kinds of research but have not had the opportunity to develop their expertise in understanding, choosing, and using particular research methods, effecting quantitative and qualitative analysis, carrying out critical analysis with (and of) statistics and statistical software, and preparing for publication of research.

The program will be built from a match between applicants and the seminar leaders. Thus, this form asks potential participants to supply details of their project, any initial data they have, and any research background they have. Participants will be selected according to the fit between the described project and the seminar leaders’ areas of expertise as well as the applicant’s readiness. Each participant will develop an individualized plan for progress on that project, to be carried through the extended workshop and beyond.

Participants may submit a single application for more than one person if they are planning to attend as a pair or group.

We welcome new and seasoned composition teachers and WPAs from all types of institutions and writing positions, including two-year and four-year colleges and universities, writing centers, writing across the curriculum programs, or centers for teaching excellence. Participants may be researchers looking to expand their repertoire of methods, or new researchers.

As you complete the application, keep in mind these comments from last year’s cohort as a way to think about how this application can already begin to support your research process:

“Be specific about your goals (for both the seminar and your research project); be prepared to be frustrated at times--in the same way our students are frustrated by new tasks.”

“I really didn't know what I was going to be immersing myself in when I first arrived. The training, though, far exceeded what I would have ever imagined.”

“Be prepared for an intense two weeks, bring everything you can about your projects because you may well want data you left at home when you get there; try give some serious thought to your project before you come so that you are ready to ask good questions that get to the heart of what you are trying to do.”
Timeline:

• Application due December 15, 2011
• Notification January 2, 2012
• Initial reading list and sharing of project descriptions among cohort February 2012
• Data collection check-in virtual seminar April 2012
• Seminar July 29-August 10, 2012

Send application and any questions to: christiane.donahue@dartmouth.edu

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Lead contact:

Name:

Mailing address:

Email address:

Institution and role in the institution (include department or program):

Brief description of your project (1 paragraph).

Please note: if you do not yet have a project underway, use this space to describe a project to which, if accepted, you would be prepared to commit significant time before next summer.
**Objectives** of your project:

- List your broad research objectives and describe the imagined final “user” of the project data (e.g., yourself, a program, a Chair or Dean, readers of a peer-reviewed publication…)

- If you have developed them, list your specific research questions.
• List the kinds and forms of data you are collecting or will collect. This might include direct collection of student work in text form, surveys, recorded interviews (transcribed or not), Office of Institutional Research data, etc. Specify the context in which it has been or will be collected, whether it is already collected or when it will be collected, and whether any data has already been entered into an Excel spreadsheet. *Not having completed some or all of these segments is not a drawback to your application*—we are asking these questions in order to determine how we might shape various sessions or form groups and where you are in your project.

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• List all participants and roles. Include yourself and other project participants even if they are not planning to attend the seminar.

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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Role in project</th>
<th>Title(s) of research previously carried out, if any. <em>For each project listed here, please complete the “supplemental” information sheet at the end of the application.</em></th>
<th>Research methods course(s) taken (indicate title or content)</th>
<th>Plans to attend summer seminar</th>
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• List on-campus resources at your institution with whom you have worked (for example: Office of Institutional Research, IRB, interested librarian(s), interested colleague(s) from other departments….)


• IRB (check one): approved _____ submitted _____ not yet submitted _____

• How is research about composition valued or perceived at your institution? How do you know?

• Describe the specific objectives for your participation in the summer seminar (a paragraph), including what you hope to work on and to gain, as well as what you think you would prefer not to work on. Include any questions you have about your research.

PLEASE ATTACH ANY GRANT PROPOSALS, IRB APPLICATION PROJECT DESCRIPTIONS, DISSERTATION ABSTRACTS OR PROSPECTUSES, ETC. ABOUT THE PROPOSED PROJECT. It is not a problem if you don’t have any of these; we are just trying to understand your overall stage in the project.
Supplemental information on previous research projects:

For each project listed in the table of participants and roles, please answer the questions below. This will help us to understand your needs and experience, and to shape the program accordingly.

1. What was the research question you addressed and the purpose of the research?
2. How would you classify the method(s) you used? (qualitative—type(s)? quantitative—type(s)?)
3. How was the research used, and by whom?
4. Was it published or presented?
   • internally—in your department or program; to others at your institution
   • externally—in conference presentations or publications; please provide the citation information