

Convince Me—With a Story: Improving Persuasive and Narrative Writing

2 Day Course (1 graduate credit or 22.5 PDPs)

Course Description

Three critical forms of writing identified by both the new Common Core State Standards and the National Assessment of Educational Progress are informational, narrative, and persuasive writing.* This one credit course will lay the foundation for teaching two of them: persuasive and narrative writing. Showing students how narrative techniques can be used to improve persuasive writing will reinforce and strengthen both forms. A well-written story can be an effective launching point for a persuasive essay and a short anecdote can be used as a powerful reason in an opinion piece. The course, *Convince Me—With a Story*, begins as a series of lessons that identify models of good narration and persuasion. Then, participants will learn mini-lessons to teach specific techniques of effective description and persuasion and use them to build powerful sentences and thoughtful paragraphs. Attention will also be given to planning, editing and revising strategies and offer practical suggestions to give feedback to students using both rubrics and Focus Correction Areas. Throughout the course, participants will learn techniques to get every student involved in and excited about writing and help students take more responsibility for their own progress. Participants will learn to build a school-wide approach as they collect and share data with colleagues.

Praise for Collins Courses

Teachers love our courses. From the summer of 2001 to the present, participants filled out an evaluation of each course. One question was, “Compared to other workshops you have attended, how would you rate this workshop?” The teachers were given a one to ten scale: a one described as “not effective at all,” a five as “an average experience,” and a ten as “one of the best I have attended.” The average score was a 9.7.

Cost: \$150 (plus \$50 for optional graduate credit through Endicott College)

Time: 8:00-3:15

Instructor: Bill Atwood, thebillatwood@gmail.com 617-686-2330

How to register: Contact Collins Education Associates ♦ 1-800-932-4477 or online at www.collinsed.com

* <http://www.corestandards.org/Files/K12ELASTandards.pdf> (Pages 1-3)