

This section collects and shares materials from composition classes that did not have a shared theme such as “public memory” or “foodways,” but instead focused their attention on writing *about* writing. When writing is treated as the primary object of study, this means that students will likely be asked to ask and answer questions about how they accomplish writing tasks, to reflect on their own and others’ complex processes of writing from an academic perspective, or even to articulate and defend their own personal theory of writing.

A common goal of these activities is that students may begin to develop a self-awareness about what they want and need from new writing situations and to use that knowledge to start planning now for how they will transfer their writing skills to future classes or careers. What’s often most exciting about this approach is that students are given the opportunity to conduct their own primary research in writing studies, using methods like think-aloud protocols and interviews.