

# EDUCATION 371-3

## Special Topics Course: Classroom Application of Computers for Writing and Telecommunications

Spring Semester (Kelowna)  
January - April 1989

Instructor: David Porter  
Phone: 291-3189 (Kelowna 762-7600)  
Location: Kelowna Tele-Learning Centre  
(on campus of Okanagan College)

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### Prerequisite

Permission of instructor. EDUC 401/402.

### Description of Course

This course will begin January 7, 1989 and will be held at the Simon Fraser University Tele-Learning Centre on the campus of Okanagan College. The participants will meet face-to-face on Saturdays, January 7, January 21, and February 4. The course will also make extensive use of computer and audio teleconferences to mediate course activities.

The course will introduce teachers to the concepts of computer-based writing and microcomputer-based telecommunications. Participants will explore the use of writing technology to enhance composition instruction. Participants will also examine the concepts of computer telecommunications and interactive conferences. Readings and a course text will be used to examine the theoretical underpinnings and issues surrounding the use of computer-based writing technology in the classroom.

### Outline of Topics

Demystifying the writing process  
Computer tools and the writing process  
Writers of different ages  
Setting up computer environments for writing  
Using computer-based writing tools (word processors, outliners, page designers)  
Electronic communications (e-mail, teleconferencing, file uploads and downloads)  
Managing the computer-based writing environment

### Course Requirements

1. A portfolio of professional writing and/or teleconference contributions.
3. A paper based on readings
4. A curriculum project incorporating ideas learned in the course

### Required Text and Readings

Daiute, Colette. Writing and Computers, Toronto, Addison-Wesley, 1985.  
A collection of readings from journals will be available from the instructor.