CENTER FOR TEACHING AND LEARNING

The mission of the Center for Teaching and Learning is to foster the development of our faculty and staff as members of a community of engaged and effective educator-scholars, committed to excellence in student learning.

The center offers a variety of services for members of the university community:

• Workshops on a variety of pedagogical topics and innovative teaching strategies.
• Individual consultation with faculty on effective pedagogy, including department-based consulting.
• Research opportunities for faculty and student affairs personnel.
• Classroom observations for all faculty for preparation of promotion and tenure files.
• Resources for topics related to teaching and learning including books, journals and consultation.

The Center for Teaching and Learning coordinates with both the Quinnipiac University Writing Across the Curriculum and the Service Learning Committee.

Writing Across the Curriculum

Formed in 2001, Quinnipiac University Writing Across the Curriculum (QUWAC) is an interdisciplinary faculty committee that promotes practices that lead to better student thinking and stronger student writing. Quinnipiac endorses the position taken by the National Commission on Writing for America's Families, Schools and Colleges that good writing is a "threshold skill" for employment virtually anywhere in the professions. Since its inception, QUWAC has embraced four basic assumptions in its core mission:

• That writing is an active, recursive process that reflects and promotes critical thinking.

• That the most effective approach to improving student writing is through improving students' critical-thinking skills.

• That good writing and critical thinking may take different forms across different disciplines and tasks.

• That some combination of informal writing and formal writing provides the best means to model critical thinking and writing with students.

QUWAC facilitates faculty workshops on critical thinking and writing development, awards faculty research in the scholarship of teaching and learning, hosts a biennial conference on critical thinking and writing on the Quinnipiac campus, and sponsors Double Helix: A Journal of Critical Thinking and Writing, that publishes faculty scholarship from across the globe.