Minnesota Writing Project offers
an Open Institute for Teachers

CI 5410: Writing Process and Thematic Inquiry:
Writing for Social Justice
3 Credits

Facilitated by Stephanie Rollag and Jessica Dockter Tierney

The MWP Open Institute will be a workshop, not a traditional class. In it you will focus on three areas:

Writing
You will reflect on your own writing processes as you write, share your writing, and participate in a community of writers. Writing groups will meet several times during the course.

Teaching
You will consider the theory and practice of writing instruction that helps students achieve their potential as writers and change agents.

Learning
You will examine a current literacy issue related to the course theme: writing for social justice. Course texts include Linda Christensen’s Reading, Writing, and Rising Up and Teaching for Joy and Justice.

Aspects of inquiry connected to the theme of social justice might include:

- Exploring the connection between personal and social justice writing
- Taking action through writing
- Examining a variety of genres
- Using mentor texts/text sets
- Bringing social justice topics into the writing process
- Assessing social justice writing
- Investigating digital writing options

“We if we intend to create citizens of the world, as most school districts claim in their mission statements, then we need to teach students how to use their knowledge to create change.”

—Linda Christensen, Teaching for Joy and Justice

For information on how to register for the Open Institute, contact mwp@umn.edu