

Bates College: Staff Position: Writing at Bates and the Academic Resource Commons
Assistant Director of Writing at Bates (Natural Sciences)
Location: Lewiston, ME

About

Founded in 1855, Bates is one of the nation's leading liberal arts colleges, with a long history of commitments to principles of human dignity and diversity.

Since its inception, Bates has been a coeducational, nonsectarian, residential college with special commitments to academic rigor and to programs and opportunities by qualified learners of all backgrounds. Historically, Bates students and graduates have linked education with service, leadership, and obligations beyond themselves.

Bates has highly competitive admission, graduates over 90% of its entering students, and over half of its alumni earn graduate degrees. Bates has 1,700 students, 200 faculty members and 550 staff and administrative employees.

The College is proud of its strong involvements in the Lewiston-Auburn communities, Maine's second largest urban area, with a population of approximately 65,000. Bates is located on a beautiful, 109-acre, traditional New England campus in Lewiston, Maine, a lively small city enjoying an exciting economic and cultural revitalization. With an engaged citizenry, lively arts scene, and historic downtown, this walkable city is 35 miles north of Portland, 140 miles north of Boston, and 340 miles north of New York City.

The Position

The Assistant Director of Writing at Bates (Natural Sciences) works closely alongside their Humanities and Social Sciences counterpart to provide support for the faculty of Bates College on the teaching of writing, and for students in their growth as writers. The Assistant Director will engage directly with writing across the academic curriculum at Bates College, engaging the faculty over writing and speaking in the area of Mathematics and Natural Sciences through trainings, workshops, individual consultations, and other venues. They will work closely with students, in both informal one-to-one meetings and in more social programming that they will have a leading role in designing, to thrive in their journey as writers. The Assistant Director for Natural Sciences will lead Writing at Bates' role in W2, the middle of three course that together comprise Bates' writing-attentive curriculum and in which students are introduced to conventions for writing within specific academic disciplines. Working closely as part of a close-knit team with the other members of the Writing at Bates staff, the Assistant Director will play an integral role in driving a strong vision for the role of writing in teaching and learning at Bates. Further, the Assistant Director will play a leading role in Bates' Academic Resource Commons, overseeing the college's supplemental instruction program, coordinating department-specific writing support, and engaging closely with academic support for STEM programming. The Assistant Director is charged with the creation and implementation of student and faculty programming that fully honors the mission of Bates College, especially with regard to engaging

the transformative power of our differences, cultivating intellectual discovery, and informed civic action.

Writing at Bates is Bates' Writing Across the Curriculum Program. The responsibility for the teaching of writing at Bates College is distributed, by collective decision of the faculty, across the entire Bates curriculum, focused in a series of Writing-Attentive Courses that every Bates student takes in their path to graduation. Writing at Bates empowers the faculty of the college as teachers of writing, and as teachers who use writing as a tool for learning. We empower students as users of writing for study, inquiry, and social action.

The Academic Resource Commons (ARC) is Bates' learning and writing center. Founded in 2016, ARC offers high-quality, student-focused peer tutoring and other support services in a welcoming, inclusive, environment. The ARC is a vital part of the academic experience at Bates College, complementing the classroom experience with a deeply social, collaborative, interactive learning environment that engages learners of every background in a conversation over shared challenges and student success.

We seek to engage a colleague who embraces these missions, and who enthusiastically translates this in the support for writing, speaking, and learning for the flourishing and full participation of all.

This is full-time, 10-month staff position with faculty lecturer status. Desired start date is August 1, 2017. Review of applications will begin on July 5.

Qualifications

The successful candidate will have a PhD in Composition, Rhetoric, or a related discipline, with significant training and experience in the Natural Sciences. Outstanding candidates with a PhD in the natural sciences may be considered, with a very strong scholarly and professional background in composition.

The ideal candidate will have:

- 3+ years of experience and demonstrated excellence in teaching, especially the teaching of writing as a tool for learning and the use of writing as a tool for learning.
- Demonstrated experience working in the areas of writing program administration and writing across the curriculum.
- Record of active scholarship in composition and/or writing across the curriculum.
- Professional experience and/or scholarship in any of the following areas desired: classroom-based tutoring, writing in the disciplines, technical and professional writing, Supplemental Instruction, peer tutoring, data visualization.
- Familiarity with the academic environment and higher education.
- Understanding current theories and best practices in teaching, learning, and assessment of written communication.
- Strong interpersonal skills with ability to develop and maintain collegial relationships.

- Ability to work collaboratively and effectively across disciplinary boundaries with a diverse group of faculty, students, and staff. Must be flexible and have a positive attitude.
- A commitment to bringing multiple perspectives to the curriculum and Writing at Bates and to fostering inclusive practices.
- Strong oral and written communication skills.
- Strong organizational (time, task and project management)

Benefits

Bates College offers competitive salaries, excellent benefits (health, dental, 9% retirement contribution with potential for an additional 3% match, 22 days of vacation*, 12 paid holidays, free parking, access to library and athletic facilities & more) and a supportive, collegial environment in a drug- and smoke-free workplace. ***Benefits are prorated for employees working less than full-time or 12 months.**

Application Instructions

Please submit a cover letter, resume or CV, and contact information for three professional references. This position requires successful completion of a pre-employment background screening. Review of applications begins immediately and will continue until the position is filled.