Across the Disciplines

Synopsis:

Across the Disciplines: Interdisciplinary Perspectives on Language, Learning, and Academic Writing is an electronic journal published by the Writing Across the Disciplines Clearinghouse, a publisher of multiple scholarly journals related to composition. Across the Disciplines began online publication (available at http://wac.colostate.edu/atd/) in 2004 as a merger of the print journal Language and Learning Across the Disciplines and the online journal Academic Writing. The editorial goals of Across the Disciplines reflect its origins: it seeks to be both a journal dedicated to scholarly debate about writing across multiple curricula while maintaining a commitment to a cross-disciplinary view of compositional studies. Each year begins a new volume of the journal, which publishes single articles continuously throughout the year rather than releasing single “issues.”

Editorial Board:

Michael Pemberton, Editor
Georgia Southern University
Specialization: Research and composition

Suelynn Duffey, Reviews Editor
Colorado Southern University
Specialization: First year writing

Mike Palmquist, Design and Production
Colorado State University
Specialization in composition technologies

Sharon Quiroz, Editor Emeritus
Illinois Institute of Technology
Specialization: History of rhetoric and writing across curricula

The Editorial Review Board has forty-nine members from colleges as varied as Michigan Technological University and Stanford.

Editorial Policy and Submission Guidelines:

Across the Disciplines seeks work that explores the theory, practice and research of composition across the curriculum, or reviews of monographs that explore these issues. The journal uses a blind submissions policy, and each article will be reviewed by at least two board members for acceptance, acceptance with stipulated revisions, revise and resubmit and rejection. The editors welcome conference papers not published elsewhere. The journal prefers APA-style citations.

Taking advantage of its position as an online publication, Across the Disciplines welcomes the use of HTML and Flash in submitted articles (if the author has little or no programming experience, the journal may provide assistance). Publication occurs directly after acceptance, since the journal publishes continuously. Around ten articles appear to be accepted each year.

Although the journal has no specific issues per se, the editors occasionally release special issues. Past special issues have dealt with the topic “Classrooms After the Events...
of 9/11” and “The Linguistically-Diverse Student: Challenges and Possibilities Across the Curriculum.” A call for articles is in effect right now for a special issue called “Incorporating the visual into Writing/Electronic/Communication/Learning Across the Curriculum.”

Summary of Articles:

The articles published in Across the Disciplines follow consistently from the journal’s policies and goals. Articles have detailed how to solve the problem of plagiarism, how writing across the disciplines has led to a rethinking of academic discourse, how students learn to write coherently about sciences like biology. Many of the articles discuss the development and implementation of curriculum that stress multi-disciplinary writing. The editors seem particularly keen on articles that seek to justify writing across the curriculum as an important field in both compositional theory and the academy at large.