INVITATIONS AND INQUIRY:
Supporting (Reluctant) Readers and Writers
November 7, 2015 at SUNY New Paltz

The HUDSON VALLEY WRITING PROJECT sponsors Saturday Seminars for teachers of all grade levels and content areas. In this set of experiential workshops, HVWP presenters will introduce teaching strategies that engage and support students, particularly reluctant readers and writers.

8:30 - 9:00 am SIGN-IN REGISTRATION - 1907 Room, Old Main Building, SUNY NEW PALTZ
9:00 - 10:30 am SESSION ONE WORKSHOPS (Choose one):

BREAKING IT DOWN: Taking an Inquiry Approach to Reading
Colleen Mutchler-Santoli, Cornwall High School
Struggling readers benefit from deconstructing texts in the spirit of inquiry. Participants will consider ways to support struggling students as they learn to read closely and construct meaningful questions. We will consider how these inquiry processes can also strengthen students’ writing. Grades 6-12

DRAW YOUR OWN CONCLUSION: Promoting Writing Fluency and Reading Comprehension
Eileen Dmytry, Plattekill Elementary School
How do you get your reluctant writers to start writing and then keep going without losing steam? In this workshop, we will explore strategies that foster writing stamina and build on writers’ natural tendencies to generate ideas while sketching and drawing. Grades 1-12

10:30 am-12:00 pm SESSION TWO WORKSHOPS (Choose one):

THE GOLDILOCKS PRINCIPLE: Composing "Just Right" Inquiry Questions
Sarah Feldman, North Park Elementary School
The quality of the questions student researchers ask has a direct bearing on the complexity of their thinking and the extent of their understanding. Workshop participants will explore an inquiry-based research project about mythical monsters in order to learn ways to guide students toward developing concept questions for deeper learning. Participants are asked to bring laptops to this workshop. Grade 3-College

WRITING IN THE RAIN: Choosing an Umbrella Subject
Alex Jakubowski, SUNY Orange
Frustrated by assigned essay topics, students often produce writing that is underdeveloped and does not reflect their true potential. In this workshop, we will discuss various teaching strategies as we examine student writing to see what happens when writers work from an "umbrella" or broad subject to compose several pieces. Grade 4-College

HVWP’s 2015-16 Saturday Seminar Series is offered as a public service to teachers and the community thanks to the support of the School of Education at SUNY New Paltz, the Department of Education at Vassar College, and the Mid-Hudson Teacher Center.