

LAURA BURNS
laura.burns@bellevuecollege.edu
425-564-2373, R230M
Bellevue College



I'm looking forward to being your instructor in this course. This is my 7th year teaching on-line, but I've taught full-time at BC for many years, 22 to be exact! I teach a variety of courses: creative writing, composition, literature, interdisciplinary studies. I also teach the non-fiction creative writing course, and serve as the instructor for our online literary magazine, *Belletrist*. My favorite literature courses to teach are Gothic and Horror Fiction and Women's Literature, and I'm excited that the Gothic and Horror Fiction will be offered online this coming Winter 2013. I teach all ranges of composition, from developmental to second year composition. I enjoy teaching as much as I did when I first started; watching students grow in their skills and understanding continues to be greatly rewarding to me.

What do I like to do outside of teaching? My hobby (or really passion) is dog training and showing. That's why the only pictures I have here are with my dogs. I show my springer spaniels in all kinds of events: obedience trials, hunting trials, agility (which you might have seen on TV) and conformation shows (like Westminster that airs on TV in February). So, if we communicate at some time during a weekend, it's very likely I might be writing you from an obedience trial or dog show!



I love to read, and have recently been reading a lot of non-fiction, mostly biographies and books on animal communication and behavior. I also love reading history and biographies. In past years I've team-taught an interdisciplinary course with two other instructors called *Sharing the Animal Planet*, which combines composition, literature, and biology in studying the animal/human bond, as well as an interdisciplinary class studying our relationship with dogs: *Life with Dogs: the Canine Connection*. I'm also a practicing, published writer, with two quarterly columns appearing in nationally published magazines and newsletters. I started a short fiction piece over the summer and write poetry. So I know what it's like to try to invent new topics, draft ideas and face deadlines. I'm excited about working with you in this class.



I'm looking forward to meeting each one of you over cyberspace. Best of luck in this course!

Laura Burns