

**St. John's University**  
**Writing Across Communities Principles**

Writing Across Communities began in 2007 as Writing Across the Curriculum (WAC) and was housed within St. John's Institute for Writing Studies. Since then, WAC has supported St. John's faculty from across the disciplines using writing for learning and teaching. On July 1, 2018, WAC changed its name to Writing Across Communities. Faculty who have been involved with WAC over the years have been integral to imagining the future of the program. WAC at St. John's has long been involved with Writing Across Communities initiatives through a national consortium and by working with these principles through our many faculty development programs.

**As a program, we are committed to these Writing Across Communities principles:**

"First, the WACommunities approach regards language and literacy as human processes integral to building and maintaining human communities (cultural rhetorical ecologies)" (Kells 2018).

"Second, it recognizes language diversity as a reflection of rich cultural connections locally, regionally, nationally, and globally" (Kells 2018).

"Third, it adopts the notion that the acquisition of academic literacy (and of standardized edited American English) should enhance students' communicative resources, not erase them" (Kells 2018).

"Finally, it advocates culturally responsive approaches to literacy education across and beyond the curriculum" (Kells 2018).

*Reference: "Writing Across Communities" by Michelle Hall Kells, 2018*