



Bridges to Better Writing (Available Titles CengageNOW)

By Luis Nazario, Deborah Borchers, William Lewis

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The market is essay-level developmental writing, often referred to as the "bridge" course (to freshman composition). At the developmental level, the bridge course (and texts for it) apes freshman composition but includes more basic grammar review than the typical comp course. The course may or may not include a research paper, but focuses nonetheless on writing essays. Students are placed in this course initially if they score too low on standardized or local writing placement tests or if they pass into the course after having successfully completed lower-level developmental writing courses. Between 90 and 95 percent of the market for the bridge course is in community colleges and/or career ed schools. This is a growing market. More and more, four-year schools that don't want to publicly offer a bridge course will use a book such as BRIDGES TO BETTER WRITING because incoming students aren't ready for a standard freshman comp course.

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Review

"Without being excessive, this promises to be the most complete book of its kind."

"The variety in this text can fine tune my program and . . . make students see the importance of writing in their lives."

"This is a text about connections: connections between students and their writing and connections between writing and the world at large."

About the Author

Luis Nazario is Assistant Chair of the English Department at Pueblo Community College, where he has taught developmental and college-level courses since 1990. Professor Nazario completed his BA at Inter American University in Puerto Rico and his MA at New York University. Together with text coauthor Deborah Borchers, Nazario has presented work on service learning at conferences and later worked on modules for developmental English to be used in the Department of Corrections. In addition, he has developed Internet courses in both developmental and college-level courses, designed college-level hybrid courses, and restructured his course to be taught as a learning community. In 2011, Professor Nazario received the Jerry Wartgow Teaching with Technology Award from the Colorado Community College System.

Debbie Borchers is Chair of the English Department at Pueblo Community College, where she is in her twenty-fifth year as a member of the faculty. Professor Borchers began her teaching career as a student of Near Eastern culture in Cairo. After returning to the United States, Professor Borchers earned her MA in TESL from the University of Arizona. Together with Luis Nazario, Borchers has implemented innovative service learning programs, student and faculty assessments, and standards for the English curriculum. She also has developed an online Introduction to Literature course and has presented workshops on Writing Across the Curriculum and developmental education.

Bill Lewis graduated from the University of Colorado and subsequently pursued his interest in the Russian language at the Defense Language Institute, which led to a 14-year career in the intelligence community. After earning his MA in English from George Mason University, he began his association with the English department at Pueblo Community College, where he has taught developmental and college-level English composition, technical writing, and literature courses for the past 18 years. He has also served as the college's Director of Planning, Accreditation, and Effectiveness, and is currently serving his division as Assessment of Student Learning Coordinator.

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