

LUC WRITING CENTER –  
“ARTICLES ON RESPONDING TO AND GRADING STUDENT WRITING”

Teachers can be so fixated on assigning an essay project, assisting students to develop their arguments, and conducting discussions of these papers during office hours that it can be a big shock to receive eighteen to twenty-five papers at once, all sitting on a desk waiting to be graded. The students' part is done, hopefully submitted by the deadline, but now it's the teacher's turn to feel pressured to “process” these papers by a certain date and submit grades for the class. Besides the dilemma of knowing how much useful (but time-consuming) feedback to give each student, teachers may struggle to allocate personal time to grading, and to move through the papers in a timely manner.

Read the following opinion pieces, peer-reviewed articles, and scholarly books as a starting place for resolving your own grading quandaries!

*Responding to Student Writing:*

[“About Responding to Student Writing.”](#) (Peter Elbow)

[“Commenting on Student Writing”](#) (The Teaching Center).

[“Grading Student Papers: Reducing Faculty Workload While Improving Feedback to Students.”](#)  
Kathy Pezdek. (Association for Psychological Science.)

[“Responding to Student Writing – and Writers”](#) (Harvard Graduate School of Education),  
Sommers, Nancy. [“Responding to Student Writing.”](#) *College Composition and Communication*  
33.2, May 1982, pp. 148-156. (National Council of Teachers of English.)

Straub, Richard. [“Responding – Really Responding – to Other Students’ Writing.”](#) *The Subject is Writing: Essays by Teachers and Students*. Edited by Wendy Bishop. Boyton/Cook –  
Heinemann, 2003, pp. 162-172.

Zamel, Vivian. [Responding to Student Writing.](#) *TESOL Quarterly* 19.1, March 1985, pp. 80-102.

*Grading Student Writing:*

*Alternatives to Grading Student Writing*. Edited by Stephen Tchudi. National Council of  
Teachers of English, 1997.

[“A Strategy for Grading Student Writing Assignments”](#) (Faculty Focus)

Ferris, Dana R. *Response to Student Writing: Implications for Second Language Students*.  
Lawrence Erlbaum Associates, Publishers, 2003.

[“Grading on Merit and Achievement: Where Quality Meets Quantity.”](#) (Stephen Adkison and  
Stephen Tchudi).

[“Grading Student Work.”](#) (Berkeley Graduate Division)

[“Grading Student Writing: Making It Simpler, Fairer, Clearer.”](#) Peter Elbow. 2003 EBSCO  
Publishing.

[“Grading Student Writing: Tips and Tricks to Save You Time.”](#) Kevin Yee.

Speck, Bruce W. and John Ed Greenwood. *Grading Student Writing*. Information Age  
Publishing, Incorporated, 2009.

[“Time Management Suggestions for Grading Student Writing.”](#) (Berkeley Graduate Division)

[“Using Rubrics and Holistic Scoring of Writing.”](#) (Jean S. Ketter). *Alternatives to Grading Student Writing*. Edited by Stephen Tchudi. Digitized by Colorado State University  
Libraries.