

# Mary Baldwin College

## Environment-Based Learning Courses

### Summer, 2008



#### June 23 – 27 Math in the Garden

Learn to use the garden and local environment to teach math skills to students in grades K-8. This course will cover math concepts from basic operations to geometry and data analysis. Course will include field trips to gardens and natural areas for implementation practice.

#### July 7 – 11 Writing as a Second Language: From Natural Experience to Story to Prose

Donald Davis, nationally known and award winning storyteller, will return this summer as the facilitator for this course. The primary goal of the course is to help teachers use storytelling to enhance the writing abilities and interests of K-12 students. Stories of experiences in the environment will be a focus of the course. The Frontier Culture Museum will provide a backdrop for participants as they practice the process.



#### July 7 – 11 Trout in the Classroom

With a *Trout in the Classroom* (TIC) project, students in grades K-12 raise trout from eggs, monitor tank water quality, engage in stream habitat study, learn to appreciate water resources, begin to foster a conservation ethic and grow to understand ecosystems. Teachers will learn *TIC* methods and techniques to assist them in tailoring the program to their specific curricular and interdisciplinary needs. The course will include field trips to local rivers to study issues related to fisheries and ecosystem health.

#### July 14 – 18 Natural Research: Using the Environment for Student-Driven Investigations

The natural environment presents an excellent setting for student development of scientific investigations. This course will provide middle and high school educators with the skills needed to work with students in grades 6-12 as they design and perform their own experiments, collect and analyze data, and present results. Educators will participate in watershed-based activities as part of the course, including a trip to the Chesapeake Bay. The course will address learning standards in all fields of science: chemistry, biology/life science, earth science, and physics/physical science.



#### August 4 – 8 Environment-Based Learning



In this course, educators will learn to integrate problem-based themes of the local community into the K-12 curriculum. Using the complex interconnections of the natural and built environments, educators from rural to urban areas will learn to facilitate investigations of real-world issues from a variety of perspectives: historical, scientific, socio-cultural, economic, and personal. Using Environment-Based Learning (EBL) to teach state and national standards will be an emphasis of the course.

**Graduate Credit:** Each course provides 3 hours of graduate credit from MBC. Tuition is discounted by grants for some of the courses. A \$50 registration fee is due by 15 May, 2008. Courses will be held in Staunton and at various field-experience locations.

For more information or to register, please contact Dr. Tamra Willis,  
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