

Biography

Gillies Malnarich



I co-direct the Washington Center for Improving the Quality of Undergraduate Education, a public service center of The Evergreen State College, and teach in Evening and Weekend Studies. Together with Emily Lardner, I develop and lead our learning communities work, including the summer institute and other projects from assessing integrative learning to campus equity and engagement.

Before coming to the Washington Center, I worked with educators and campuses on policy and system-wide practices related to developmental education, abilities-based teaching and assessment, faculty development, and institutional effectiveness. A deeply-held commitment to an education of quality for all guides my professional life.

My recent writing and scholarship emphasizes learning communities as an intervention strategy for addressing curricular trouble spots across the curriculum and within courses. In *The Pedagogy of Possibilities: Developmental Education, College-level Studies and Learning Communities*, I argue that entering students, including those in developmental studies, thrive in learning environments that integrate intellectually challenging curriculum with learning foundational academic skills.

Other writing appears in *Responding to the Challenges of Developmental Education* (2005), *Teaching Inclusively* (2005), and *Ethnicity Matters* (2006), and this year Emily and I co-authored two articles: "A New Era for Learning Community Work: Why the Pedagogy of Intentional Integration Matter" in *Change*, July / August 2008, and "Sustaining Learning Communities: Moving from Curricular to Educational Reform" in *Perspectives*, Winter 2007. The privilege of visiting many campuses reminds me of how much good work remains hidden, and why I value Washington Center's practice of making good work public.

Educated in the humanities and social sciences, I have taught in community- and work-based popular education programs, at universities, and a large urban community college.

Contact Information

Gillies Malnarich

Co-Director

The Washington Center

2700 Evergreen Parkway NW

Olympia, WA 98505

malnarig@evergreen.edu

Ph: 360-867-6609 ♦ Fax: 360-866-6662