

Open Call for Fall '24

For this issue, *Georgia ELA Connections* extends an open call for article submissions focused on any aspect of English Language Arts instruction from Kindergarten through college. Writers can explore any topics related to instruction in reading, writing, speaking, listening, and/or language use, including unconventional, nontraditional, or innovative approaches to such topics. Articles should be research-based and practitioner-oriented, with clear, realistic applications to classroom practice. Please see our Submission Guidelines for information on length, formatting, and other details. The deadline for submissions is Friday, May 17.

GA ELA Connections will also regularly feature four columns intended to highlight shorter pieces. These columns (and their submission guidelines) are described below. The deadline for consideration for the Fall 2024 issue is Friday, May 17.

The Future Is Now

For a decade, the National Council of Teachers of English has provided a platform for preservice and early career teachers to share their work through a session titled “The Future Is Now: Exploring 21st Century Teaching Ideas with the Next Generation of English Teachers.” GCTE began its own version of this session at 2018’s Annual Conference, and now, *Georgia ELA Connections* extends an invitation for beginning teachers to explore areas of inquiry in a regular column. Open to preservice teachers as well as teachers with 1-4 years of experience, this column is designed for early career educators to share promising practices, wrestle with vexing issues, and/or pursue questions that will help shape the professional conversation about our field in Georgia and beyond. Please send submissions of 1,200-1,400 words as a Word document to GAELAConnections@gmail.com, being sure to specifically indicate in your email that it is intended for “The Future Is Now.” Include in your email your full name(s), school affiliation(s), and the main email contact for the lead author, if the submission is coauthored. Inquiries about potential submissions are also welcomed.

Technology, Multimodality, and Critical Media Literacy in the ELA Classroom

Building on the 2021 National Council of Teachers of English policy brief, *Critical Media Literacy and Popular Culture in ELA Classrooms*, we invite submissions for a column that explores innovative classroom practices involving digital media, multimodality, and/or critical media literacy. Teachers using digital tools, crafting lessons that involve or encourage the reading and/or writing of multimodal texts, or teaching students to become critical consumers of media and popular culture are invited to share their curricular approaches, lessons learned, or vexing issues. Please send submissions of 1,200-1,400 words as a Word document to GAELAConnections@gmail.com, being sure to specifically indicate in your email that it is intended for “Technology, Multimodality, Critical Media Literacy in the ELA Classroom.” Include in your email your full name(s), school affiliation(s), and the main email contact for the lead author, if the submission is coauthored. Inquiries about potential submissions are also welcomed.

Critical Issues

From book challenges to curricular misrepresentation in the media to the perennial struggle to teach meaningfully in an era of data and testing, it has perhaps never been more challenging to be an English teacher. This is why, in politically fraught times, it is important for teachers to hear from supportive collegial voices, not to vent (or at least not *only* to vent), but to share potential remedies for the issues that make one of the best jobs in the world also one of the most difficult. Educators with a thoughtful exploration of a critical issue (including, but not limited to, those listed above) are invited to submit their work for this column. Please send submissions of 1,200-1,400 words as a Word document to GAELAConnections@gmail.com, being sure to specifically indicate in your email that it is intended for "Critical Issues." Include in your email your full name(s), school affiliation(s), and the main email contact for the lead author, if the submission is coauthored. Inquiries about potential submissions are also welcomed.

Book Reviews

Georgia ELA Connections invites book reviews of 500-750 words in length. These can be reviews of professional texts as well as children's or Young Adult Literature. Reviews should include both a general synopsis of the book's content as well as a discussion of practical application for the classroom. Please send submissions as a Word document to GAELAConnections@gmail.com, being sure to specifically indicate in your email that it is a book review. Include in your email your full name(s), school affiliation(s), and the main email contact for the lead author, if the submission is coauthored. Inquiries about potential submissions are also welcomed.

Submission Guidelines

Manuscripts should offer specific classroom practices that are grounded in research.

Manuscripts should be 2,000-3,000 words double-spaced with 1-inch margins in 12-point Times New Roman font, prepared according to the citation style specified in the APA Handbook, current edition.

Any images (i.e., photos, visuals, charts, student work, etc.) must be black and white or grayscale in high-resolution (300 dpi) files (tif, jpg, or pdf).

For student work or photographs of students, please include appropriate Student Consent-to-Publish form(s) completed and signed by the student and the student's parent/guardian.

Authors are responsible for any excerpts from previously published sources requiring a reprint fee. To ensure impartial review, information that identifies the author should not appear in the manuscript.

A cover page, submitted as a separate document, should contain:

- the title of the submission,
- an abstract or overview of the article and word count,

- the author's name, email, address, and phone number,
- the author's teaching grade level and affiliation,
- the author's 2-3 sentence biographical information.
- If the piece is coauthored, please be sure to provide contact information, teaching information, and biographical information for each author.

Send manuscript as a Word document to GAELACConnections@gmail.com.

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