Date: Friday May 31, 2019; 9am to 4pm
Location: Scorca Hall, The National Opera Center America.
330 7th Ave, (7th floor), New York, NY 10001
Fee: $200

Learning Outcomes:

1. Participants will be able to describe current and widely accepted theoretical frameworks for writing that address handwriting, spelling, text generation, and executive function skills needed by schoolchildren to engage in the writing process.

2. Participants will be able to explain the levels of language framework including word, sentence, and discourse level skills needed for written expression.

3. Participants will be able to describe and explain how to integrate executive function skills of planning, revising, goal setting, and cognitive self-regulation, all of which are utilized by schoolchildren to write.

4. Participants will be able to summarize evidence-based and research-based strategies for supporting successful writing skills in schoolchildren including handwriting, spelling, text generation, and executive function skills.

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Brooklyn Letters SLP PLLC is excited to announce the following:

The Role of Language and Executive Function Skills in Writing for Elementary School Children

By Dr. Anthony D. Koutsoftas
Writing is an important skill for schoolchildren and requires the complex orchestration of language and executive function skills to meet this academic challenge. Writing lends itself well to targeting executive functions and language skills because of the complex nature of the task. In this workshop, participants will unpack the writing process into component parts including handwriting, spelling, text generation, planning, revising, and self-regulation. The theoretical foundations of each of these skills along with current best practices for targeting these skills in elementary schoolchildren will be the focus of this course. Participants will leave the course with a list of strategies that have an evidence-base for supporting struggling writers including those with special education needs, language disorders, and executive function difficulties.

**Agenda:**

9:00 to 9:30 The importance of writing for schoolchildren
9:30 to 10:00 Understanding academic demands of writing
10:00 to 10:30 Theoretical frameworks for writing
10:30 to 10:45 Break
10:45 to 11:30 A brief review of current research on writing interventions for elementary schoolchildren
11:30 to 12:00 Handwriting and Spelling: Transcription Skills
12:00 to 1:00 LUNCH (on your own)
1:00 to 1:30 Text Generation: A sentence is simply an idea on paper
1:30 to 2:15 Executive Functions: How the frontal lobe regulates writing
2:15 to 2:30 Case Study Introduction
2:30 to 2:45 Break
3:00 to 3:45 Strategies for Writing Instruction: A Case Study Approach
3:45 to 4:00 Summary, Questions, and Answers

**Speaker Bio**

Dr. Anthony D. Koutsoftas is an Associate Professor in the Department of Speech-Language Pathology in the School of Health and Medical Sciences at Seton Hall University, Nutley, NJ. He received his bachelor’s degree from New York University, master’s degree from Teachers College, Columbia University, and PhD from Arizona State University. Anthony teaches undergraduate, graduate, and doctoral courses related to language and literacy in school-age populations as well as research methods courses. Anthony’s research interests include the development of reading, oral language, and writing abilities in typically developing children and children at risk for academic failure including children with Language-Based Learning Disabilities. Anthony has published his work in peer-reviewed journals including: Journal of Speech, Language, Hearing Research; Language, Speech and Hearing Services in Schools; International Journal of Language and Communication Disorders; Reading and Writing: An Interdisciplinary Journal; and, The Elementary School Journal.

**Who should attend?**

Speech Language Pathologists, Special Educators, General Educators, Learning Specialists, Psychologists, Occupational Therapists, and other personnel working with elementary school children on writing skills.

**Register:** [nicole@brooklynnletters.com](mailto:nicole@brooklynnletters.com)

**This course is offered for .55 ASHA CEUs (Intermediate level, Professional Area)**

This course is offered for 5.5 CTLEs (pending)