Public Peer Review

Title: Making Meaning with and Through Writing: An Approach to Research

Writing

Author: Ilknur Sancak-Marusa

Reviewer: Stacy Esch

Ilknur Sancak-Marusa's Making Meaning with and Through Writing: An Approach to Research Writing provides an honest introduction to the special rigors of academic writing, particularly research writing. Students and instructors alike will appreciate the text's down-to-earth tone and its brevity; it is accessible, brief, and well suited for first-year writing courses, especially those that emphasize developing students' rhetorical agility. Sancak-Marusa's years of teaching First-Year Writing (FYW), and serving as FYW Coordinator and Writing Center Director, allow her to comfortably invite students to explore cornerstone concepts (metacognition, rhetorical situation, writing processes, genre, analysis, synthesis, and more). These are the concepts that empower students are least familiar with, but which do the most to empower them as mature, confident, and adaptable writers in academic, professional, or personal contexts. Presenting writing as a recursive, meaning-making process, each chapter introduces a core concept that directly relates to that process. Chapters are concise but consistently include definitions, extended explanations, and examples. Most also include relevant exercises that can be used as class activities and extended assignments; additionally, most chapters provide direct links to open-source readings that can be assigned to further support student learning.

Reviewer's Bio: Stacy Esch is an assistant professor of English at West Chester University