

Peer Tutoring with the Writing Center

The Writing Center provides free help to students with writing assignments for courses in any subject. We offer one-on-one sessions with knowledgeable, attentive tutors. Both walk-in meetings and scheduled appointments are available.

What we do:

Writing tutors offer assistance at any stage in the writing process. Here are some of the things we can help you to do:

- understand an assignment and establish a project timetable
- explore topics and discover ideas
- organize examples and develop a thesis
- draft or revise an essay
- write clear and grammatical sentences
- locate, evaluate, and integrate material from outside sources
- document sources according to appropriate guidelines
- understand instructor comments
- address any other concerns you have about your writing

What we don't do:

- estimate a paper's grade
- tell you what to write
- comment on your instructor

What to expect:

The goal of any tutoring session is not to improve a student's essay (this may be a by-product, but it's not the ultimate goal). Instead, the goal of the tutoring session is to improve the writer's understanding of the skills needed to make that essay or writing assignment as effective as possible. For this reason, you will be expected to take an active role. Tutors will listen to your questions, make suggestions, and help you to identify representative examples of your writing's strengths and weaknesses. We will also make sure you leave with a plan for the next steps in the writing process.

How to prepare:

The most important thing to bring to a session is your questions. Try to identify precisely what you hope to focus on. Is it finding a topic? Discovering a thesis? APA documentation? No matter what stage of the writing process you're in, consider what's working well so far and what isn't. Additionally, be sure to bring the following items:

- assignment prompt
- course syllabus
- hard copy of any full or partial drafts
- brainstorming, freewriting, or other discovery materials you've created
- relevant class notes