The Writing Center @ UW-Madison

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The Writing Center
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• Myth #1: “Isn’t that just for remedial writers?”
• Myth #2: “The Writing Center Instructors are undergraduates.”
• Myth #3: “Writing Center Instructors will judge my writing.”
• Myth #4: “Don’t they just mark up your paper for punctuation? Edit it and stuff like that?”

Writing Center Myths
• Expectations for good writing change depending on the context.
• Writing is a process. “Good papers” don’t emerge overnight.
• Writers benefit from talking about their writing with an attentive, engaged listener.
• Writers benefit from reading their writing aloud.
• There is no such thing as an “expert” writer!
• Even (and especially) experienced writers use the Writing Center.

Core Principles
The First Appointment

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<td>1</td>
<td>Bring the assignment and/or instructions, your current draft, and any other materials you might have (notes, samples, etc.).</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>Think ahead about the one or two things that you most want feedback on.</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Be prepared to talk through the assignment, read part or all of the draft out loud, and make plans for revisions and/or future appointments.</td>
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Accessible and Convenient!

ONE-ON-ONE CONSULTATION IN PERSON
  • by appointment in the Main Center (6th floor, Helen C. White)
  • SATELLITES: first-come, first-served drop-in hours at 7 satellite locations around campus

ONLINE WRITING CENTER
  EMAIL: Submit a draft online to receive comments within a day or two
  SKYPE: Live chat on Skype with an instructor (avail. 5 nights a week)

WORKSHOPS

Many resources! Many options!
RESUMES, COVER LETTERS, & APPLICATIONS

- Writing Resumés and Cover Letters
- Writing Proposals for Hilldale and Holstrom Research
- Writing Peace Corps Application Essays
- Teach for America: Preparing the Application
- Writing Personal Statements for Law School Applications
- Writing Application Essays and Statements of Purpose for Graduate School

ACADEMIC WRITING

- Literary Analysis: Not Just a Book Report Anymore
- Writing In-Class Essay Exams
- The Basics of APA Documentation
- How Do I Know There Is a Problem? Tips on Self-Editing for Undergraduate Multilingual Writers
- Improving Your Paper's Flow
- Senior-Thesis Writing Groups
Online Writing Services

1. Email an Instructor
   - 72-hour turn around
   - Up to 10 pages in length

2. Online Conferences
   - Sunday – Thursday, 7-10
   - 45 minute sessions
   - Using GoogleDocs

3. Ask the Writing Consultant
Make an appointment with the Writing Center

Call: (608) 263-1992

Visit: 6171 Helen C. White
Revised from a presentation by Anna Floch.