

Writing Center



Graduate Student Writing Workshop

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USF Writing Center

Writing Process

- *What is the most challenging part of the writing process for you?*
- *What comes easily?*
- *How do you generally approach a writing project?*

Writing Center Basics

- *Staffed by Graduate Students from the Department of English*
- *Writing Center Hours are 10-9 M-Th, F 10-4, and Sunday 1-5*
- *Appointments are highly encouraged, but limited same-day scheduled appointments are available M-Th*

How (and why) to include the Writing Center in your process

- *Deadlines*
- *Professional Sphere/Peer review process*
- *Research Librarians*

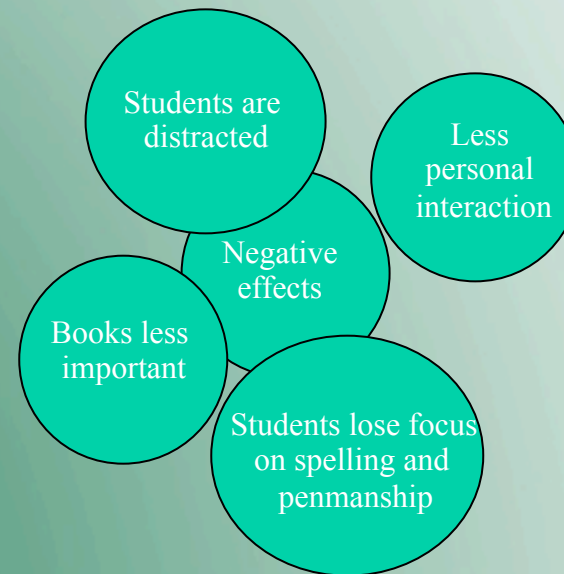
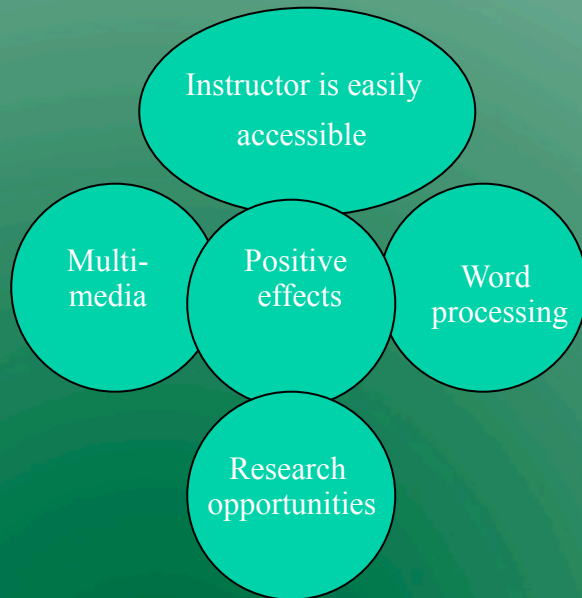
Scholarship

- *Keep a writing calendar (regardless of your project)*
- *Stay organized*
- *Make writing collaborative as opposed to solitary*
- *Reading strategies*
 - *Remember the difference between summarizing, quoting, and paraphrasing*
 - *Approach disciplinary reading looking for a way to enter the conversation*

Approaches to Graduate Writing

- *Getting Started:*
 - *Establish your audience and rhetorical context*
 - *Silence your editor*
 - *Use invention strategies*
 - *Listing*
 - *Conversation*
 - *Outlining (Chronological, Thematical, Thesis-Focused)*
 - *Idea clusters/maps*

Sample Cluster



Organization: Introduction

- *Introduction as a promise/blueprint*
- *Thesis: What's the main idea of your paper? What assertion do you want to make? What is at stake in your argument?*
- *Preview: What should your audience expect from your paper? What kind of situations or research are you going to use to prove or explain?*

Organization: Body

- *Each paragraph should have:*
 - *Transitional Sentence*
 - *Main idea*
 - *Support (research; quotations; evidence)*
- *The body of your paper should be organized so that it leads toward your conclusion.*

Organization: Conclusion

- *Conclusion should pull together the ideas you have laid out in your argument*
- *Put your argument in a larger context – why does your argument matter to the scholarly conversation you are entering?*

Proofreading and Editing

- *Be precise and concise.*
- *Look for pronoun problems (Do you use “this” or “that” too often?)*
- *Avoid:*
 - *Wordiness*
 - *Slang*
 - *Imprecise Language*
 - *Contractions*

Revision: Rewrite and Revise

- *Read Aloud!*
- *Complete a reverse outline*
- *Create your own checklist based on your instructor's rubric/your own expectations for the paper*
 - *What's the motivation for this paper?*
 - *What is the problem or main idea (thesis)?*
 - *How has the problem been solved/thesis been proven?*
 - *What are the larger implications of this work?*