

Writing Studio Bulletin

Spring 2016

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Marketing Innovations in the Writing Studio

In response to our research, the Writing Studio implemented new marketing strategies. At the beginning and end of each semester, we now email flyers explaining services and scheduling for graduate students and students taking an online or off-campus course. We also recently modified our graduate and online/off-campus scheduling system so that students can schedule both face-to-face and online appointments at their own convenience, 24/7. This change increased our graduate, online, and off-campus tutoring hours by 44.5% from the spring to the fall of 2015. In addition, Aaron Youmans, an intern who is researching promotional strategies, is helping us continue these

innovations and better spread our mission and services to students and faculty on campus through new posters and video outreach projects. Our most recent marketing innovation is included in *The Slate Online*.

[Check it out here!](#)



Spring 2016
Writing Studio Tutors



Tutor Recruitment

We are currently interviewing and hiring writing tutors from all disciplines for next semester. If you have an exceptional writer with excellent interpersonal skills, please email the student's name to [Dr. Karen Johnson](#). For more information about our hiring requirements for tutor candidates, visit our [website!](#)

Tutor Training

Writing Studio tutors attend approximately 12 hours of initial training and are required to read *The Bedford Guide for Writing Tutors* before they begin tutoring. To maintain high levels of service, tutors are required to attend a series of training sessions held throughout the semester. Topics include how to tutor writers in APA and MLA style, help writers organize their academic papers, develop multicultural sensitivity, and review and teach mechanics and grammatical concepts. As a way to consistently provide effective levels of support, Writing Studio tutors are required to observe other writing tutors once each semester to give and receive collaborative feedback.

Spring 2016 Tutorama

During finals week, the Learning Center will offer *drop-in tutoring* on a variety of subjects!

**Monday, May 2 & Tuesday, May 3
11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.**

Encourage students to bring in final papers for last minute feedback!

"What Types of Writing Can I Bring To The Writing Studio?"

Projects at any stage of the writing process, from brainstorming and outlining to organizing, revising, or proofreading.

- APA/MLA/Chicago
- Citations/References
- Research Projects/Thesis
- Literature Reviews
- Capstone Projects
- Resumes
- Speech Outlines
- Art Portfolios



Writing Studio Fun Facts:

Since 2009, 96 tutors and graduate assistants have given 51 presentations at regional, national, and international conferences.

Since 2009, the number of writing tutor appointments per year has grown by 418%.

Last semester, approximately 99% of undergraduate writers Strongly Agreed or Agreed that they met their learning goals and that the tutor created a supportive environment for discussing their concerns.

Last semester, approximately 98% of undergraduate writers Strongly Agreed or Agreed that they felt confident to independently apply learning from the tutoring session and that the tutor provided effective support to help them achieve their learning goals.



International Student Conversation Group

Ariel Slotter, a Writing Studio Graduate Assistant, has continued her work with international students this semester by offering an opportunity to participate in a conversation group. So far this semester, five different students have attended, but the average group size is two. This semester, Ariel is focusing on teaching these students through conversation. They have learned about and discussed how to give a presentation, how to conduct research, and how to incorporate that research into a paper. Students even suggested giving practice speeches in front of the group.

If you know of an international student who would benefit from this service, please contact Ariel at as2823@ship.edu. The group meets every Thursday from 2:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m. in the Learning Center.

Save the Date for the Writing Boot Camp!

Disappointed that you were not able to participate in our engaging, monthly Faculty Writing Group meetings where we spent time writing, refining manuscripts, giving feedback to writers, and working on grant proposals? Then mark your calendar for **May 16-18!** You won't want to miss the opportunity to write, receive mentoring on grant proposals, and obtain feedback on writing projects. We look forward to a productive time of writing together!

Thank You, Graduating Tutors!

Working in the Writing Studio has allowed me to learn different writing styles, which has improved my own writing process, as well as provided me the opportunity to find better ways to communicate with students from all backgrounds. -Ariel Slotter



At the Writing Studio, I have not only grown as a writing consultant but also a researcher. I am very thankful to have worked with a diverse student population, which made me a better consultant, and for the opportunities to present research at multiple conferences. My three years have been an unforgettable experience! -Jessica Weidner



My experience of being a writing tutor has completely changed my thoughts about tutors. I always thought writing tutors were meant for people who had really bad writing, but I have realized that it is for everyone! The writing tutor's role is to help students remember the concepts they already learned in school. This experience has made me grow in my writing and also as a person! -Julie Stump



My favorite aspect of tutoring includes seeing students' growth. It's amazing how just one session can help strengthen a person's writing skills. I find that it is rewarding to tutor because of the confidence students show by the end of the session. Tutoring not only improved my writing skills, but it taught me more about people and different styles of learning. -Chelsea Ksanznak

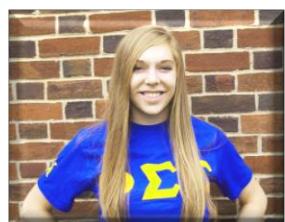


What I enjoy most about the Writing Studio is the ability to work with students, collaboratively and see genuine improvement after only 60 minutes of tutoring. I have witnessed countless students arrive at the Writing Studio, anxious and wary of their ability to write, and leave with a clear understanding of how they can become better writers. What I have learned most from my time in the Writing Studio is that every student has the capacity to become a great writer. -Aaron Youmans



Tutoring has provided me with countless opportunities to reach out to students all over campus who are in need of writing help and support. I have enjoyed

working in the Learning Center because I love teaching and helping my peers. I am currently in my last semester of student teaching, so tutoring has better prepared me for my teaching journey. I am thankful to be a part of such a rewarding group. - Jess Collins



The best part of my work is the feedback I receive from students who have improved their writing. I also enjoy working closely with Dr. Johnson who is always searching for new opportunities for me to showcase my own writing. Tutoring here at Ship has been an incredible experience, mostly because it is a dual process in which tutors and students learn from each other. -Crystal Conzo



I have enjoyed each semester working hands on with students, as both a tutor and a fellow. My favorite part of working in the Writing Studio has been helping students go from brainstorming to a strong, final draft! -Caitlin Clark

Graduate Student Write-In

The Writing Studio is hosting an event for graduate students. This Write-In is designed to provide the space and time necessary for graduate students to complete their writing assignments. Whether students are looking for feedback from a graduate writing consultant or simply a place to write, the Writing Studio will provide the atmosphere to accomplish their goals!

Come and go as you please! Refreshments provided.

Room 134 in the Learning Center

Tuesday, April 19 12:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Research in the Writing Studio

International Writing Centers

Association Collaborative

Dr. Karen Johnson and Ariel

Slotter presented research at this year's International Writing Centers Association Collaborative in Houston, Texas, on April 6, 2016. Their research delves into the qualitative research collected last semester by Ariel and Jessica Weidner on the misconceptions graduate students hold about writing centers. Dr. Johnson and Ariel presented this qualitative data to other writing center stakeholders to gain feedback on the appropriateness of their coding mechanisms and results.

Mid-Atlantic Writing

Centers Association

On March 18, Graduate Assistants Ariel Slotter, Jessica Weidner, and Hilary Miller, along with director Dr. Karen Johnson, presented, "How to Use Graduate Student Misconceptions to Guide Writing Center Innovations." The study stemmed from a fall 2015

survey that examined how graduate students viewed writing centers. The results showed that most students thought writing tutoring was only for struggling students and that it was the tutor's job to "fix" papers. Some students were unaware that graduate services were offered. In response to these results, innovations were made to surveys and feedback forms to facilitate better student/consultant collaboration.



Learning Center Hours

Sunday: 5:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Mon-Thurs: 10:00 a.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Fri/Sat: Closed

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