Writing and Research Workshops

Fall 2010

The Graduate Writing Center Winter will offer general writing workshops on a variety of topics as well as a few specialized workshops for non-native speakers of English. We will also hold targeted writing workshops for graduate students in the areas of Humanities & Arts, Social Sciences, and Sciences & Engineering. Additionally, we will post information about workshops being offered by the UCLA libraries and the ATS Statistical Consulting Group. Special thanks to our campus programming partners: UCLA Library, Writing Programs, Academic Technology Services Statistical Consulting Group, Counseling and Psychological Services, and the Career Center.

- Research Workshops
- Statistical Software Workshops
- General Writing Workshops
- Dissertation and Proposal/Prospectus Workshops
- Humanities & Arts Workshops
- Social Sciences Workshops
- Sciences & Engineering Workshops
- ESL Workshops
- All Workshops in Chronological Order
- Online Workshops
- Summer Boot Camps (past)
- Past Workshops
- Click Here for Flyers

Research Workshops

Information Literacy Workshop for UCLA Graduate Student TAs

Esther Grassian, College Library  estherg@library.ucla.edu

This interactive workshop will provide you with tips and techniques for improving your students’ information researching and critical thinking skills through demo, hands on, and review of a sample syllabus enhanced with information literacy assignment ideas. By using some of these tips and techniques, you'll save time working individually with students in helping them learn how to conduct research and avoid plagiarism. Students armed with information literacy skills should be able to...

* select, narrow and broaden a research topic
* describe the differences between popular and scholarly publications
* identify useful databases to search for information on their topics
* conduct efficient, effective searches
* identify useful research materials, by applying evaluative criteria
* describe several reasons for citing information
* avoid plagiarism by recognizing when to cite, and by citing according to the style required for their research papers

Space is limited. Please RSVP for one of these sessions:

Tuesday, September 14th, 1 pm to 3 pm
The RSVP confirmation will include the location and a URL for a brief survey that will help Esther address the topics that interest you.

If you cannot make it to one of these sessions, you may be interested in the "Teach Information Literacy & Critical Thinking!" guide Esther created that describes many information literacy teaching tips and techniques, some of which will be demonstrated and discussed during the workshop:

http://guides.library.ucla.edu/content.php?pid=33500&sid=245471

New Graduate Student Library Tour
An orientation tour and talk on library services.

Two times (same tour):
Tuesday, September 21st, 2:00-2:30pm
Wednesday, September 22nd, 11:00-11:30am
Meet on the front porch of the Charles E. Young Research Library. (map)

Research@UCLA Library
Learn how to effectively navigate the Library's website, search Library catalogs to find books, and discover the best databases for articles on a given topic.

Three times (same workshop):
Wednesday, September 29th, 12:00-1:00pm
Tuesday, October 5th, 10:00-11:00am
Thursday, October 7th, 1:00pm-2:00pm
Location: Research Library East Electronic Classroom, room 21536 (map)

EndNote
This session offers a basic overview of the purpose, uses, and features of EndNote, a software program that helps researchers manage their references and produce bibliographies for projects large and small.

Three times (same workshop):
Tuesday, October 12th, 1:00pm-2:00pm
Thursday, October 21st, 2:00-3:00pm
Wednesday, October 27th, 12:00-1:00pm
Location: Research Library East Electronic Classroom, room 21536 (map)

Zotero
This session offers a basic overview of the purpose, uses, and features of Zotero, a free FireFox extension that helps researchers manage references. Students are encouraged to bring in their own computers with the latest version of Zotero already installed.

Monday, October 18th, 11:00am-12:00pm
Location: Research Library East Electronic Classroom, room 21536 (map)

U.S. Census Information and Statistics
This session offers a basic overview of U.S. Census data and statistics utilizing resources at the Research Library and beyond.

Wednesday, October 20th, 10:00-11:00am
Location: Research Library East Electronic Classroom, room 21536 (map)

Research Appointments
Graduate students are welcome to contact Library's subject specialists any time for further assistance with research, library resources, and subject databases. Contact information for subject librarians.

To see the most current schedule of UCLA Library workshops, consult the UCLA Library seminar page.

Statistical Software Workshops

For walk-in consulting information, Stat books for loan, and the most up-to-date listing of seminars, please see the ATS Stats Group website. Click here for more detailed location information, including directions to the Visualization Portal in the Math Sciences building.

General Writing Workshops

Academic Writing Skills Workshop for ESL Graduate Students
Netta Avineri, Applied Linguistics & TESL
In this interactive workshop, ESL graduate students will learn skills and strategies to build their fluency, accuracy, and comprehensibility in English academic writing. In addition, we will discuss useful on-campus, online, and print resources that will help students to work independently to improve their writing. There will also be time for questions and answers about ESL writing issues and concerns.
**Two times (same workshop):**
Tuesday, October 5th, 5:00-7:00pm
Friday, October 8th, 12:00-2:00pm
**Location:** Conference Room 4, Student Activities Center (basement level) (map)

Teaching and Writing: What Teachers & TAs Need to Know
Bruce Beiderwell, Director, UCLA Writing Programs
Marilyn Gray, Coordinator, Graduate Writing Center
This workshop, which is designed for TAs in the humanities and social sciences, will cover how to help students improve their writing and review how to teach writing concepts, such as thesis statements, organization, and summary versus analysis. The workshop will also cover appropriate ways to respond to student writing, including etiquette for commenting on student papers and best practices for one-on-one meetings with students.
**Thursday, October 14th, 5:00-7:00pm**
**Location:** Conference Room 4, Student Activities Center (basement level) (map)

Citation and Academic Integrity Issues for Graduate Students
Gabriella Gray, YRL Librarian
Common research and writing situations often present complex questions related to citation and paraphrasing. In support of maintaining academic integrity, this workshop will offer practical guidance for citing sources and using information ethically.
**Two times (same workshop):**
Thursday, October 28th, 4:00-5:30pm
Friday, October 29th, 12:00-1:30pm
**Location:** Conference Room 4, Student Activities Center (basement level) (map)

How to Make an Argument
Rob Sullivan, Geography
This workshop will discuss how to make, situate, and qualify arguments appropriately in graduate-level academic writing. Participants will learn what the basic components of any solid argument are and how to structure them into a coherent, persuasive whole. They will practice constructing their own arguments and analyzing arguments from scholarly articles. If participants would like to practice analyzing arguments in their own fields, they should bring one or two scholarly articles to the workshop.
**Friday, November 12th, 12:00-2:00pm**
Dissertation and Proposal/Prospectus Workshops

Strategies for Writing the Social Sciences Dissertation Proposal
Netta Avineri, Applied Linguistics
Lisa Millora, Education
This workshop will give an overview of the main components of a dissertation proposal in the social sciences and cover strategies for writing the introduction, literature review, methods, and significance sections. These strategies should be adapted to your department’s and advisor’s expectations about the structure and content of your proposal. Please bring two copies of your abstract to this workshop.
Tuesday, October 19th, 5:00-7:00pm
Location: Conference Room 4, Student Activities Center (basement level) (map)

Strategies for Writing the Humanities Dissertation Prospectus
Allison Crumly, Comparative Literature
This workshop is geared towards giving incipient prospectus writers the tools to write their prospectus over the course of two months. We will discuss literature review and argument development as well as how to turn the many different pieces of a prospectus into a coherent document. Nota bene: this is meant to be an addition to--not a substitution for--serious discussions with your advisor about what is expected of you in your home department.
Thursday, October 21st, 5:00-7:00pm
Location: Conference Room 4, Student Activities Center (basement level) (map)

Dissertation Writing Groups, Support Groups and Resources for Dissertators
Dr. Alan Nagamoto, Counseling Psychological Services
Christine Wilson, Graduate Student Resource Center Director
Marilyn Gray, Graduate Writing Center Coordinator
Allison Crumly, Graduate Writing Consultant
The workshop will provide information about resources for dissertators and thesis-writers. The panel will discuss writing groups and support groups, including how to run your own dissertation writing group or writing partnership. Finally, at the end of the workshop, we will meet with graduate students who are interested in being placed in a writing group.
Tuesday, October 26th, 5:00-7:00pm
Location: Conference Room 4, Student Activities Center (basement level) (map)

Humanities Writing Workshops

Strategies for Writing the Humanities Dissertation Prospectus
Allison Crumly, Comparative Literature
This workshop is geared towards giving incipient prospectus writers the tools to write their prospectus over the course of two months. We will discuss literature review and argument development as well as how to turn the many different pieces of a prospectus into a coherent document. Nota bene: this is meant to be an addition to--not a substitution for--serious discussions with your advisor about what is expected of you in your home department.
Thursday, October 21st, 5:00-7:00pm
Location: Conference Room 4, Student Activities Center (basement level) (map)

Writing the Humanities Course Paper
Allison Crumley, Comparative Literature
This workshop will cover strategies for writing and revising graduate-level humanities course papers. In this workshop we will discuss ways to develop papers for graduate courses, including how to develop a more complex thesis and how to write a literature review.
Writing the Qualitative Course Paper

Netta Avineri, Applied Linguistics

This workshop will cover strategies for writing and revising graduate-level qualitative course papers in the social sciences. In this workshop we will discuss ways to develop papers for graduate courses, including how to develop a more complex thesis and how to write a literature review.

Two times (same workshop):
Tuesday, November 2nd, 5:00-7:00pm
Friday, November 5th, 12:00-2:00pm

Location: Conference Room 4, Student Activities Center (basement level) (map)

Social Sciences Writing Workshops

Strategies for Writing the Social Sciences Dissertation Proposal

Netta Avineri, Applied Linguistics
Lisa Millora, Education

This workshop will give an overview of the main components of a dissertation proposal in the social sciences and cover strategies for writing the introduction, literature review, methods, and significance sections. These strategies should be adapted to your department’s and advisor’s expectations about the structure and content of your proposal. Please bring two copies of your abstract to this workshop.

Tuesday, October 19th, 5:00-7:00pm
Location: Conference Room 4, Student Activities Center (basement level) (map)

Writing the Qualitative Course Paper

Netta Avineri, Applied Linguistics

This workshop will cover strategies for writing and revising graduate-level qualitative course papers in the social sciences. In this workshop we will discuss ways to develop papers for graduate courses, including how to develop a more complex thesis and how to write a literature review.

Two times (same workshop):
Tuesday, November 2nd, 5:00-7:00pm
Friday, November 5th, 12:00-2:00pm

Location: Conference Room 4, Student Activities Center (basement level) (map)

Writing the Quantitative Course Paper

Lisa Millora, Education

This workshop will cover strategies for writing and revising graduate-level quantitative course papers in the social sciences. In this workshop we will discuss ways to develop papers for graduate courses, including how to develop a more complex thesis and how to write a literature review.

Thursday, November 4th, 5:00-7:00pm
Location: Conference Room 4, Student Activities Center (basement level) (map)

Science and Engineering Writing Workshops

Practical Tips for Writing a Scientific Paper

Scott Arno, Neuroscience

This workshop will cover the basics of how to plan for, prepare, and organize science-specific writing, including term papers, manuscripts and abstracts. We will also cover style, common structure and tips for avoiding problems such as excess jargon and ambiguously stated hypotheses.
Two times (same workshop):
Friday, October 22nd, 12:00-1:30pm
Tuesday, November 16th, 5:00-6:30pm
Location: Conference Room 4, Student Activities Center (basement level) (map)

We have some previously-recorded online workshops about writing in the sciences, including workshops on applying for the NIH NRSA fellowship and writing dissertation proposal and an article-based dissertation in the sciences. For more information, click here.

ESL Workshops

Academic Writing Skills Workshop for ESL Graduate Students
Netta Avineri, Applied Linguistics & TESL
In this interactive workshop, ESL graduate students will learn skills and strategies to build their fluency, accuracy, and comprehensibility in English academic writing. In addition, we will discuss useful on-campus, online, and print resources that will help students to work independently to improve their writing. There will also be time for questions and answers about ESL writing issues and concerns.
Two times (same workshop):
Tuesday, October 5th, 5:00-7:00pm
Friday, October 8th, 12:00-2:00pm
Location: Conference Room 4, Student Activities Center (basement level) (map)

Email Etiquette at the University
Netta Avineri, Applied Linguistics & TESL
Graduate students will write thousands of emails while getting your degree—emails that invite professors to serve on your dissertation committee, emails that ask for extensions on papers, emails in which you introduce yourself to potential mentors or advisors. Designed for graduate students who speak English as a second or foreign language, this workshop breaks down the language necessary to make polite requests over email. It also covers basic email etiquette and includes opportunities to edit emails written by real graduate students.
Two times (same workshop):
Tuesday, October 12th, 5:00-7:00pm
Friday, October 15th, 12:00-2:00pm
Location: Conference Room 4, Student Activities Center (basement level) (map)

How to Make an Argument
Rob Sullivan, Geography
This workshop will discuss how to make, situate, and qualify arguments appropriately in graduate-level academic writing. Participants will learn what the basic components to any solid argument are and how to structure them into a coherent, persuasive whole.
Friday, November 12th, 12:00-2:00pm
Location: Conference Room 4, Student Activities Center (basement level) (map)