Summer 2008 Workshops and Programs

The Graduate Writing Center offers a wide variety of general writing workshops and workshops on more specialized issues. We also hold targeted writing workshops for graduate students in the areas of Humanities & Arts, Social Sciences, and Sciences & Engineering. Special thanks to our campus programming partners: UCLA Library, Writing Programs, Academic Technology Services Statistical Consulting Group, Student Psychological Services, and the Career Center.

- Research Workshops
- General Writing Workshops
- Dissertation Workshops

Research Workshops

EndNote
Miki Goral, YRL Librarian
This session offers a basic overview of the purpose, uses, and features of EndNote, a program that helps researchers manage references and produce bibliographies for projects large and small.
Wednesday, July 16, 10:30-12:00pm
Location: Research Library East Electronic Classroom, room 21536 (map)

Accessing History Resources at UCLA
Marta Brunner, YRL Librarian
Aimed at anyone who utilizes history resources in their graduate research, this workshop provides an overview of the print and electronic resources available at UCLA, including articles databases, reference sources, oral histories, newspapers, and other primary sources.
Tuesday, August 19, 3:00-4:30pm
Location: Research Library East Electronic Classroom, room 21536 (map)

Advanced EndNote
Gabriella Gray, YRL Librarian
This hands-on session will offer an overview of some advanced EndNote techniques. Note: Session will emphasize EndNote X1 for Windows.
Thursday, August 21, 2:00-3:30pm
Location: Research Library East Electronic Classroom, room 21536 (map)

For additional workshops offered by the UCLA libraries, see their seminar page.

General Writing Workshops

Revision Workshop: Strategies for Revising Longer Texts
Marilyn Gray, Graduate Writing Center Coordinator
This workshop will be a hands-on workshop to give people ideas and strategies for how to revise longer texts, such as master's theses, dissertation chapters or proposals. Please bring a hard copy of your own work, at least 15-20 double-spaced pages (more is fine). If you would like to do some of the preparation work ahead of time, start working on a backwards outline by
tagging each paragraph with a phrase describing its main point.

Tuesday, July 15th, 3:00-5:00pm
Location: Conference Room 3, Student Activities Center (basement level)

Grammar and Punctuation 101: A Refresher Workshop on All You've Forgotten
Andrea Olinger, Applied Linguistics & TESL
Jodie Katon, Epidemiology
This is Part I in a series of two workshops. This workshop will review grammar and punctuation including in-class practice. The target audience is native speakers of English who feel rusty on grammar, but ESL students are welcome to attend. Topics will reflect participants’ interests but will likely include commas, semicolons, apostrophes, who versus whom, which versus that, and tricky subject-verb agreement issues. You are encouraged to bring specific questions regarding these topics in your own work.

Tuesday, July 22nd, 3:00-4:30pm
Location: Conference Room 3, Student Activities Center (basement level)

Style and Proofreading 101: A Refresher Workshop on All You've Forgotten
Andrea Olinger, Applied Linguistics & TESL
Jodie Katon, Epidemiology
This is Part II in a series of two workshops. You do not need to have attended Part I to participate in Part II. This workshop will review style and strategies for proofreading your own work including in-class practice. The target audience is native speakers of English who feel rusty on grammar, but ESL students are welcome to attend. Topics will reflect participants’ interests but will likely include parallel structure, misplaced and dangling modifiers, and active and passive voice. There will be two in-class editing exercises and you are encouraged to bring specific questions regarding these topics in your own work.

Tuesday, July 29th, 3:00-4:30pm
Location: Conference Room 3, Student Activities Center (basement level)

How to Write a Teaching Philosophy Statement
John Taborn, Associate Director, UCLA Career Center
Jeannine Murray-Román, Comparative Literature
Teaching philosophy statements are used in applications and academic portfolios for fellowship, grants and academic jobs. This workshop presents the various components that constitute a statement of teaching philosophy from a career perspective and explores the various approaches to how to write about your teaching. Come and learn about this early in your graduate student career!

Tuesday, August 19th, 3:00-5:00pm
Location: Conference Room 3, Student Activities Center (basement level)

Writing Without Pain: Ergonomics for Writers
Cynthia Burt, UCLA Ergonomics Program
If you work long hours at your computer, this workshop is for you. Knowledge of computer ergonomics will help you avoid risky postures and bad habits that can lead to discomfort and injury. Participants will learn how to:
- Set up computer workstations to reduce awkward postures and repetitive motions
- Select and use computer equipment and accessories to reduce discomfort
- Adjust your chair and workstation accessories for optimal comfort and fit.
- Use movement and posture techniques to reduce fatigue and discomfort

Tuesday, August 26th, 3:00-4:15pm
Location: Conference Room 3, Student Activities Center (basement level)

Applying for the NSF Graduate Research Fellowship
Mac Marston, Archaeology
This workshop will discuss strategies for applying for the National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship. Open to US citizens in the Social, Biological, and Physical Sciences, this highly competitive fellowship provides three years of fellowship funding to successful applicants. The workshop will focus on the merit criteria for NSF grants, the structure of the proposal,
suggestions for writing style, and technical details of Fastlane submission.

Tuesday, September 9th, 3:00-5:00
Location: Conference Room 3, Student Activities Center (basement level)

Dissertation Workshops

Getting Started on the Dissertation: How to Get Going and Keep Going
Marilyn Gray, Graduate Writing Center Coordinator
This workshop gives an overview of organization, time management, writing process issues and writing strategies.
Recommended for people in the early stages of the dissertation, but useful for all stages.

Tuesday, July 1st, 3:00-5:00pm
Location: Conference Room 3, Student Activities Center (basement level)

Dissertation Writing Strategies for ESL Graduate Students
Netta Avineri, Applied Linguistics & TESL
In this interactive workshop, ESL graduate students will learn strategies to get through the dissertation process. 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.

Tuesday, July 8th, 3:00-5:00pm
Location: Conference Room 3, Student Activities Center (basement level)

Revision Workshop: Strategies for Revising Longer Texts
Marilyn Gray, Graduate Writing Center Coordinator
This workshop will be a hands-on workshop to give people ideas and strategies for how to revise longer texts, such as master's theses, dissertation chapters or proposals. Please bring a hard copy of your own work, at least 15-20 double-spaced pages (more is fine). If you would like to do some of the preparation work ahead of time, start working on a backwards outline by tagging each paragraph with a phrase describing its main point.

Tuesday, July 15th, 3:00-5:00pm
Location: Conference Room 3, Student Activities Center (basement level)

Dissertation Writing Groups, Support Groups and Resources for Dissertators
Dr. Alan Nagamoto, Student Psychological Services
Christine Wilson, Graduate Student Resource Center Coordinator
Marilyn Gray, Graduate Writing Center Coordinator
Jeannine Murray-Román, Comparative Literature
Netta Avineri, Applied Linguistics & TESL
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 and submitted the questionnaire by Monday, August 4th.

Tuesday, August 5th, 3:00-5:00pm
Location: Conference Room 3, Student Activities Center (basement level)

Overcoming Procrastination and Perfectionism During the Dissertation Process
Dr. Alan Nagamoto, Student Psychological Services
Dr. Nagamoto oversees the dissertation support groups at Student Psychological Services and has years of experience working with graduate students. He will explain how to overcome some of the major pitfalls common to dissertators.

Tuesday, August 12th, 3:00-5:00
Location: Conference Room 3, Student Activities Center (basement level)
Previous Workshops and Programs

Click here to see an archive of past programs and workshops.