



Spring 2009 Writing and Research Workshops

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](#)
- [Other Workshops and Programs for Graduate Students](#)
- [Summer Boot Camps](#) (past)
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Research Workshops

Copyright and Permissions Issues: What You Need to Know to File

Sharon Farb, Associate University Librarian for Collection Management and Scholarly Communication

Angela Riggio, Head of Digital Collection Management, Digital Collections Services

This workshop will explain permissions and copyright issues related to filing theses and dissertations. It will cover how to use work that you have already published, when to obtain permissions for using works published by others, and whether using visuals requires permissions. The workshop will also offer practical advice on how to request permissions and copyright your own thesis. Please bring your questions!

Tuesday, April 7th, 4:00-5:30 p.m.

Location: Research Library Presentation Room, Room 11348 ([map](#))

Finding Journal Articles Online *Social Sciences focus*

Jennifer Osorio, YRL Librarian

Learn how to find full text articles online, discover the best databases for articles on a given topic, and how to use these resources effectively through online demonstration and hands-on instruction.

Thursday, April 9th, 2:00-3:00 p.m.

Location: Research Library East Electronic Classroom, room 21536 ([map](#))

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.

Tuesday, April 14th, 2:00-3:30pm

Location: Research Library East Electronic Classroom, room 21536 ([map](#))

Finding Journal Articles Online *Humanities focus*

Marta Brunner, YRL Librarian

Learn how to find full text articles online, discover the best databases for articles on a given topic, and how to use these resources effectively through online demonstration and hands-on instruction.

Thursday, April 16th, 1:00-2:00 p.m.

Location: Research Library East Electronic Classroom, room 21536 ([map](#))

For workshops offered by the UCLA libraries, [see their seminar page](#).

Statistical Software Workshops

For walk-in consulting information and the most up-to-date listing of seminars, please see the [ATS Stats Group website](#).

General Writing Workshops

Best Practices for Writing Your Master's Thesis

Netta Avineri, Applied Linguistics & TESL

This workshop will begin with a discussion of scope, expectations, and time constraints as related to master's theses. We will then consider writing and organizational strategies for the typical components of master's theses in different disciplines. Lastly, we will discuss approaches to and tips for revision of the project. Students at any stage of writing are encouraged to attend.

Wednesday, April 1st, 4:00-6:00pm

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

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.

Wednesday, April 29th, 3:00-5:00pm

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, April 30th, 4:00-6:00pm

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

Punctuation 101: A Refresher Workshop

Andrea Olinger, Applied Linguistics & TESL

Jessica Preece, Political Science

Does a comma always go before "and"? What is the difference between "which" and "that"? This workshop will review commas,

semicolons, colons, parallel structure, and restrictive and non-restrictive clauses. Participants will also practice editing for punctuation.

Friday, April 17th, 12:00-1:30pm

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

Grammar 101: A Refresher Workshop

Andrea Olinger, Applied Linguistics & TESL

Jessica Preece, Political Science

What is the difference between "who" and "whom"? Is "politics" singular or plural? What is a dangling modifier, and how do I avoid it? Designed for both native and non-native speakers of English, this workshop will review pronoun use, tricky issues in subject-verb agreement, and dangling and misplaced modifiers. Participants will also practice editing for grammatical accuracy.

Friday, April 24th, 12:00-1:30pm

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

How to Write a Teaching Philosophy Statement

John Taborn, Associate Director, UCLA Career Center

Jeannine Murray-Román, Comparative Literature, GWC Consultant

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 teaching philosophy statement and explores the various approaches to how to write about your teaching. Come and learn about this early in your graduate student career!

Wednesday, May 6th, 3:00-5:00pm

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

Style 101: A Refresher Workshop

Andrea Olinger, Applied Linguistics & TESL

Jessica Preece, Political Science

I've been told that my writing is "dense" and "passive" and that my sentences don't "flow." How can I fix these problems? This workshop will help participants improve the clarity and cohesion of their sentences and paragraphs. They will also practice editing for style.

Friday, May 8th, 12:00-1:30pm

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

How to Overcome the Dreaded 'Writer's Block' -- Practical Tips to its Gentle Extermination

Rob Sullivan, Geography (Former Professional and Creative Writer)

Ever have writer's block? Come on, be honest: we all have. This workshop offers practical tips on how to first befriend, then overcome, and finally dispel the pangs of writer's block.

Thursday, May 21st, 4:00-6:00pm

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

Dissertation and Proposal/Prospectus Workshops

Strategies for Writing the Humanities Dissertation Prospectus

Jeannine Murray-Román, 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.

Tuesday, April 21st, 4:00-6:00pm

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

RSVP requested (to help us make sure we have enough room and enough handouts), but not required. To RSVP, please send an email to gwc@gsa.asucla.ucla.edu, with the subject heading "rsvp hum prospectus")

Strategies for Writing the Social Sciences Dissertation Proposal

Netta Avineri, Applied Linguistics & TESL

Mac Marston, Archaeology

Jessica Preece, Political Science

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.

Thursday, April 23rd, 5:00-7:00pm

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

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Time Management for Dissertators

Dr. Alan Nagamoto, Counseling and Psychological Services

Dr. Nagamoto will present an introduction to the principles of time management and offer practical advice on how to manage time during the dissertation writing process. He will cover common pitfalls and how to overcome them.

Wednesday, April 15th, 5:00-7:00pm

Location: Graduate Student Resource Center, Room B11, Student Activities Center (basement level) ([map](#))

Revision Workshop: Strategies for Revising Longer Texts

Marilyn Gray, Graduate Writing Center Coordinator

This hands-on workshop will provide people with revision strategies for 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, May 19th, 4:00-6:00pm

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

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Humanities & Arts Writing Workshops

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Preparing and Presenting Conference Papers in the Humanities

Jeannine Murray-Roman, Comparative Literature

Allison Crumly, Comparative Literature

Desmond Harmon, Musicology

The purpose of this workshop is to present strategies for writing a conference paper from scratch or transforming an already existing document to fit a particular call for papers. From titles to opening up for questions, we will discuss different methods for preparing an engaging and substantive oral presentation, including various technological aids you may want to use.

Thursday, May 14th, 5:00-7:00pm

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

Revision Workshop: Strategies for Revising Longer Texts

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Writing Successful Grant and Fellowship Applications

Mac Marston, Archaeology (NSF Graduate Fellow, 2003-2007; NSF Dissertation Improvement Grant, 2008)

This workshop focuses on strategies for writing effective applications for grants and fellowships to support graduate study and research. We will discuss approaches common to the humanities, sciences, and social sciences, as well as specific suggestions for each academic area. Finally, we will briefly introduce major funding opportunities for graduate study from both UCLA and off-campus funding agencies.

Thursday, May 28th, 4:00-5:30pm

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

Social Sciences Writing Workshops

Finding Journal Articles Online *Social Sciences focus*

Jennifer Osorio, YRL Librarian

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Thursday, April 9th, 2:00-3:00 p.m.

Location: Research Library East Electronic Classroom, room 21536 ([map](#))

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Netta Avineri, Applied Linguistics & TESL

Mac Marston, Archaeology

Jessica Preece, Political Science

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.

Thursday, April 23rd, 5:00-7:00pm

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

RSVP requested (to help us make sure we have enough room and enough handouts), but not required. To RSVP, please send an email to gwc@gsa.asucla.ucla.edu, with the subject heading "rsvp ss proposal"

Preparing a Conference Paper: PowerPoint Presentations in the Social Sciences

Mac Marston, Archaeology

This workshop will focus on techniques for outlining, building, and presenting an effective 10-20 minute oral/video (e.g., PowerPoint) presentation as typically presented in the social sciences. We will discuss strategies for converting a written paper into an oral presentation, for using limited time effectively, and for incorporating multimedia elements into a presentation, among others.

Tuesday, May 12th, 4:00-6:00pm

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

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Mac Marston, Archaeology (NSF Graduate Fellow, 2003-2007; NSF Dissertation Improvement Grant, 2008)

This workshop focuses on strategies for writing effective applications for grants and fellowships to support graduate study and research. We will discuss approaches common to the humanities, sciences, and social sciences, as well as specific suggestions for each academic area. Finally, we will briefly introduce major funding opportunities for graduate study from both UCLA and off-campus funding agencies.

Thursday, May 28th, 4:00-5:30pm

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

Science and Engineering Writing Workshops

Preparing and Presenting 10-Minute Conference Talks in the Sciences

Scott Arno, Neuroscience

This workshop will cover the principles of the 10 minute talk in the context of biomedical sciences. We will discuss how to condense your research into PowerPoint, and how to effectively present it within the allotted timeframe. We will cover stylistic issues and public speaking issues as well. Students also have the option to stay and practice giving a talk.

Thursday, May 7th, 4:00-5:30pm

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

Writing Successful Grant and Fellowship Applications

Mac Marston, Archaeology (NSF Graduate Fellow, 2003-2007; NSF Dissertation Improvement Grant, 2008)

This workshop focuses on strategies for writing effective applications for grants and fellowships to support graduate study and research. We will discuss approaches common to the humanities, sciences, and social sciences, as well as specific suggestions for each academic area. Finally, we will briefly introduce major funding opportunities for graduate study from both UCLA and off-campus funding agencies.

Thursday, May 28th, 4:00-5:30pm

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

Email Etiquette at the University

Andrea Olinger, Applied Linguistics & TESL

As a graduate student, you 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.

Friday, April 10th, 12:00-2:00pm

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

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.

Wednesday, April 29th, 3:00-5:00pm

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

Email Etiquette for the Job-Seeker

Andrea Olinger, Applied Linguistics & TESL

Markell Steele, UCLA Career Center

As a graduate student, you will write many emails in the service of finding a job--emails that request informational interviews, set up interviews, and follow up on interviews. This workshop, which is designed for graduate students who speak English as a second or foreign language, will break down the language necessary to make polite requests over email. It will also cover basic email etiquette and include opportunities to edit emails written by real graduate students.

Friday, May 15th, 12:00-2:00pm

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

Choosing the Right Word: Using a Corpus to Improve your Writing

Andrea Olinger, Applied Linguistics & TESL

What nouns do writers use with "latent"? Is "data" singular or plural in your field? How is "besides" used at the beginning of a sentence? And has someone ever told you, "This word isn't right, but I don't know why?" Designed for non-native speakers of English, this workshop will give you some tools to improve your word choice. It will introduce you to several free online databases of written English and show you how to find answers to your word choice and grammar questions. It will also demonstrate how to create your own discipline-specific corpus. Bring a laptop if you have one.

Friday, May 22nd, 12:00-2:00pm

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

Previous Workshops and Programs

[Click here to see an archive of past programs and workshops.](#)
