

WVU Writing Center

www.as.wvu.edu/english/writing_center/

More Than Words

Volume 1, Issue 1

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Contact Information

- LOCATION: 44 Stansbury Hall
- HOURS: Monday-Thursday 10 am—5pm
Friday 10 am—3pm
- PHONE: 293-3107
Ext. 33400
- Call to reserve an appointment

Letter from the Director

Greetings!
The fall semester of the 2005-2006 academic year marked the reestablishment of WVU's Writing Center. Now located in the revitalized room 44 of Stansbury Hall, our Writing Center is ready to serve any WVU student seeking to improve his or her writing skills.

In providing writing help to WVU students, it is our hope that our center will become well-known throughout the campus community as a place where writers of any age and any ability will feel comfortable discussing their writing. We believe in the art of

communication and in the role of a university's Writing Center to foster the development of effective written communication skills. Writers can meet with tutors to talk through ideas, discuss grammatical intricacies, master the art of MLA, work out the nuances of a short story's plot, or determine how to conclude a ten page research paper.

Right now, the Writing Center is ready to welcome you to our new space! We currently have eighteen professionally trained tutors eager to talk writing with you. We look

forward to meeting you in the near future!

Sincerely,

Dr. Nathalie Singh-Corcoran, Coordinator



Writing Center Events

Writing Across Drafts (Brown Bag Session).....MARCH 29

The Writing Center and Undergraduate Writing Program of the Center for Writing Excellence will host a viewing and discussion of *Writing Across Drafts*, a short film about working with students and their writing. Space is limited; please RSVP to teaton@mix.wvu.edu.

Writing Center Workshop Series—"Genre".....MARCH 30

This final workshop in the series is aimed at helping 101 and 102 students recognize various genres and utilize genre forms as different modes of telling. The Workshop begins at 4 pm in the Writing Center.

Meet the Tutors

Meredith Berry

Sophomore
Landscape Architecture
Cumberland, MD

Bryan Coyle

Sophomore
English/History
Shepherdstown, WV

Whitney Dunlap

Sophomore
Accounting
St. Albans, WV

Matt Ferrence

Ph.D. English
Pittsburgh, PA

Whitney Holmes

Senior
English
Nutter Fort, WV

Kasey Kesner

Junior
English
Clarksburg, WV

Emily Kooser

Senior
English/Spanish
Uniontown, PA

Aimee Martin

Sophomore
Chemistry
Oak Hill, WV

Andrew McCarty

Sophomore
Business
Fairmont, WV

Lauren O'Connor

Sophomore
Advertising/Public Relations
Houston, TX

“The Writing Center has bookmarks and modeling clay! Also, tutoring experience.”

-Bryan Coyle, tutor

Molly Rakes

Junior
English
Fayetteville, WV

Ashley Salzmann

Senior
English
Morgantown, WV

Lindsey Seman

Sophomore
Fashion Merchandising
Jamestown, PA

Heather Thomas

Junior
Secondary English Education
Carrolltown, PA

Nicole Walter

Junior
English
Pittsburgh, PA

Tara Eaton

Graduate Student Coordinator
Creative Writing
Albany, NY

Jillian Schedneck

Graduate Student Coordinator
Creative Writing
Boston, MA

Matt VanderMeulen

Graduate Student Coordinator
Creative Writing
Bowling Green, OH

FAQs

Q: Do I need an appointment?

A: No. We will help writers who drop in if there are tutors available, but an appointment will guarantee time with one of our staff members.

Q: What do I need to bring?

A: Be sure to bring the assignment you are working on, an assignment sheet, a referral sheet (if you are given one), and any questions or concerns you may have about your writing.

Q: Where is the center located?

A: The writing center is located in 44 Stansbury Hall in the annex (beside the gym in the basement).

Q: What services does the center offer?

A: The tutors can offer feedback, help you understand your assignment, ask you helpful questions, help you recognize your writing strengths and suggest writing strategies.

Q: Will tutors edit my papers for me?

A: Unfortunately, our tutors do not serve as editors. See our section on “Strategies for Effective Proofreading” (back page) for tips to improve your own editing skills.

Q: How is it different from the library or a study room?

A: The atmosphere of the center is relaxed and comfortable, but there are also trained staff members there to help you with all your writing needs.

Tutors Attend Writing Center Conference

Six tutors from the WVU Writing Center, along with Dr. Nathalie Singh-Corcoran, attended the East Central Writing Centers Association Conference (ECWCAC). The conference took place on March 9-11 at Mount Union College in Alliance, Ohio.

The writing center staff gave a presentation entitled “Hands On in the Writing Center: Working with Bodily-Kinesthetic Learners.” Often called the “hands-on” approach, bodily-kinesthetic teaching aims to reach students who learn by doing. In writing, this can range from exercises like physically cutting up and rearranging a paper to determining which words “feel” right to the student.

The presentation began with an introduction to the bodily-kinesthetic approach given by Dr. Singh-Corcoran. From there, the workshop was divided into three rotational parts, covering bodily-kinesthetic methods for brainstorm-

ing, organization, and polishing.

The conference presentation contained a mixture of explanation and interactivity to give other tutors ideas about different ways to reach bodily-kinesthetic learners through tu-

toring sessions.

While at the conference, the WVU Writing Center staff met tutors from other universities and participated in presentations on blogging, personality and tutoring, and tutoring ESL students.

“We had fun and learned many new tutoring techniques that we can apply in our tutoring sessions,” said Nicole Walter, junior English major and tutor in the writing center.

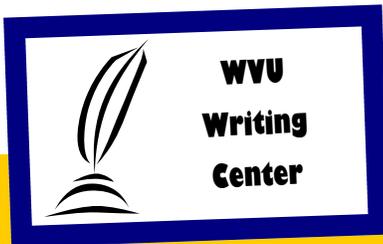
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COME SEE: Art Students’ Work Now Displayed in the Writing Center

In conjunction with Assistant Professor Joseph Lupo and the Art Department, the Writing Center now displays original work by WVU art students.

In addition to complementing the aesthetics of the center, it provides art students with an outlet and audience for showing their work.





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**WVU WRITING
CENTER**

Check us out on the Web!

[www.as.wvu.edu/
english/writing_center/](http://www.as.wvu.edu/english/writing_center/)

Bibliography

A bibliography is an alphabetical list of books, articles, Web sources, and other materials that record the works consulted in preparing a document. It provides a convenient list of sources for readers interested in obtaining further information on the topic, or in assessing the scope of the research. Most importantly, in addition to in-text citations a bibliography provides the necessary credit to an original author or source, in order to avoid plagiarizing ideas and information obtained from others. Two of the most popular styles are APA (American Psychological Association) and MLA (Modern Language Association).

SAMPLES:

APA Style:

Author's Last Name, Initials. (year). *Title in Italics*. City: Publisher.

MLA Style:

Author's last Name, First Name Middle Initial. Title Underlined.
City: Publisher, year.

For more information on MLA style, consult the *MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers* (6th ed., 2003); for APA style, consult the *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association* (5th ed., 2001). Also, check out our website for helpful links.

Becoming a Better Proofreader

1. Slow Reading— Slow reading is the best way to catch grammatical and mechanical mistakes. Though time-consuming, taking the document line by line is an easy and effective way to find errors you may have missed. Some Proofreaders read their pieces backwards (sentence by sentence), or read the pages out of order. These methods ensure that a reader is not consumed with content, and can consider other aspects such as spelling and punctuation.

2. Proofread with a Partner— Two sets of eyes are better than one. Proofreading with a buddy is a great way to catch mistakes you may routinely miss, or simply not recognize as incorrect. A creative way to partner-edit is to have one

person read aloud from the document while the other reads along silently. Another great opportunity for partner-editing is to schedule an appointment at the Writing Center.



3. Proofread for Different Concepts— Read the text multiple times with multiple purposes. Proofread once for content, then for organization, then for grammar

and mechanics, and so on. For the final proofread, combine all the elements. When you have a goal in mind, you are more likely to catch errors specifically related to that theme.

4. Have Some Patience— Proofreading is most successful the day (or at least a few hours) after a draft has been finished. Allow yourself ample time to view your work from a similar distance as your audience.

*******Special Thanks and*******
Acknowledgements to Rebecca Skidmore and our “Business Writing” Contributors: Kerry Bolyard, Jamie Griffith, Kristin Lockerman, Jacob Metcalf, and Jennifer Smith.