

Writers Workshop

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What we do: The Writers Workshop provides free writing assistance for University of Illinois students, faculty, and staff from all disciplines and at all stages of the writing process. Consultants work with students in one-to-one interactive sessions that help writers express and articulate their ideas. In addition to one-to-one sessions, the WW conducts in-class presentations, hosts writing-related workshops, sponsors writing groups, and consults with instructors about crafting writing assignments and responding to student writing. The Workshop was established in 1990 as a branch of the Center for Writing Studies, an interdisciplinary LAS unit.

Who we are: The WW employs a staff of about 30. Our consultants are experienced writers and teachers of writing. Our undergraduate peer consultants (~5-10 per semester) first take WRIT 203: Issues in Tutoring Writing before they begin working with students in one-to-one sessions. Graduate students (~15-20 per semester) are eligible for consideration for a consultantship after they've taught for at least a year. Most of our graduate student consultants come from the fields of English, Educational Policy, and Communication.

Who we work with: In AY2014-15, the Workshop was responsible for 5243 individual consulting sessions. Of those,

- 3446 (66%) were with undergraduate students
- 1742 (33%) were with graduate students
- 4135 (79%) were with multilingual writers.

We worked with writers from every major academic unit on campus.

What a session looks like: The WW assists students at any stage of the writing process, be it understanding the writing task, brainstorming ideas, incorporating sources, or crafting effective sentence-level prose. Sessions are interactive and use a variety of strategies for the one-to-one teaching of writing. Consultants do not proofread or edit papers but will teach strategies for effective proofreading and self-editing.

Where we're located: The Workshop's main location is in room 251 of the Undergraduate Library. We also have four satellite locations:

- Ikenberry Dining Hall
- Grainger Library
- PAR
- Burrill Hall

We are open for 56.5 hours per week, for a total of 244 tutoring hours per week. Students may call ahead to schedule an appointment (217.333.8796) or visit during our drop-in hours (M-R, 3-5, UGL).