

## Writing Center Mission Statements Compiled by Allison Hutchison

*Author's Note:* You are welcome to use this data set for developing your own mission statement or tutor training. If you publish using this data set, please cite this document.

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## 1. Alabama

University of North Alabama, Florence, AL (<http://www.una.edu/writingcenter/>):

- The Center's mission is three-fold:
  - to provide all UNA students with [instruction](#) and [writing resources](#);
  - to provide UNA faculty with teaching resource support and professional development opportunities in [Writing Across the Curriculum \(WAC\)](#) and [Writing in the Disciplines \(WID\)](#);
  - and to facilitate and develop community-oriented programs in writing, reading, and writing-as-critical thinking.

Alabama State University, Montgomery, AL (see saved PDF file):

- The central mission of the Writing Center is to encourage, guide, and assist student writers as they work through the writing process to better express or promote individual ideas and thoughts in written form while demonstrating sentence skills, grammatical and mechanical proficiency, and style. One primary goal of the Center is to help students become self-directed, independent, confident writers who are able to understand and use standard American English effectively. Largely, Center instructors and tutors accomplish this feat by actively engaging students in the writing process through a series of measures including skills review, guided practice, online interactive computer quizzes, computer assisted tutorial packages, and independent practice with essay writing assignments.
- In addition, the Writing Center helps students identify specific strategies to effectively accomplish assigned tasks and to help students become effective writers. One strategy that has proven most effective is asking students to read their work aloud. This allows students to discover, on their own, errors in word choice, spelling, punctuation, and clarity. For those students who have consistent or egregious grammatical and mechanical problems, the Center has available computer assisted programs which allow students numerous practice opportunities and the opportunity to work at their own pace. Still, other students may need individualized one-on-one assistance. In this instance, Writing Center instructors and tutors are available to conference with students and to assist them in revising drafts and in recognizing grammatical and mechanical deficiencies with greater ease and success. Teaching students to edit their own work is just one method of helping students become independent thinkers and writers.

## 2. Alaska

University of Alaska Fairbanks (<http://www.uaf.edu/english/writing-center/>):

- The Writing Center is a student-staffed, student-oriented service of the English Department. Our tutors, English Department teaching assistants and a few outstanding undergraduate students, can assist you in all phases of the writing process, including the following:
  - Brainstorming and generating topics
  - Organizing ideas
  - Developing research strategies
  - Use of citation styles -- MLA, APA, and Chicago

- Editing for clarity and correctness

We collaborate with each student on a one-to-one basis, and we will work with students at any phase of the writing process -- planning, drafting, revising. We can also help writers discover ways of improving grammar, mechanics, and punctuation.

### 3. Arizona

Chandler-Gilbert Community College, Chandler, AZ

(<http://www.cgcc.maricopa.edu/Academics/LearningCenter/Writing/Pages/Mission.aspx>):

- The CGCC Writing Center promotes the college's mission of serving our students by providing quality academic support to nurture life-long learning. We strive to create a welcoming environment in which we help students become better writers. Through a student-centered approach, we encourage an understanding of and critical reflection about writing and demystify the writing process to foster independence. Writing tutors work with students at all levels and abilities and in all disciplines to help them develop effective strategies for any writing situation.

Tutors help students develop strategies to achieve their goals as writers by counseling them to make informed choices. We do not write or edit papers for students. Instead, tutors give individualized attention to students at all stages of the writing process. We listen, dialogue, read carefully, and ask questions. We provided guided practice to build confidence and enhance critical thinking about writing. Ultimately, we aim to help students become successful, independent writers.

### 4. Arkansas

Southern Arkansas University, Magnolia, AK (<http://web.saumag.edu/writing-center/mission/>):

- The SAU Writing Center is a full-time, on campus, student-centered facility designed to encourage peer interaction, to establish writing as a multi-disciplinary goal, and to support the idea that writing enhances learning. It offers students from all backgrounds and disciplines the opportunity to confer at any stage of the writing process with trained writing consultants. Writers are guaranteed not only an establishment that respects their opinions, needs, and abilities but also consultants who are trained to be compassionate, interested, active readers of a variety of papers. Writing consultants are not required to be experts in any single subject but rather serve as generalists who can read, write, and comment on a variety of topics and ideas. Although the Writing Center works in conjunction with faculty across campus, the center derives the majority of its clientele from a voluntary student body of writers who—whether at the encouragement of faculty or on the basis of self-motivation—seek out the writing center as a means of improving their writing.

Henderson State University, Arkadelphia, AK (<http://www.hsu.edu/interior2.aspx?id=147>):

- The HSU Writing Center supports HSU's mission statement by encouraging students to analyze, synthesize, and articulate the materials they have read; this enables them to produce creative and scholarly papers that are logical, critical, and effective. Collaborating with Writing Center tutors, students learn appropriate uses of technology essential for research in their scholarly endeavors, enhancing their mastery of the written language.

## 5. California

Pitzer College, Claremont, CA (<http://pitweb.pitzer.edu/writing-center/writing-center-mission/>):

The study and practice of writing are integral to a liberal arts education. The Writing Center advances the college's educational objectives in critical thinking and effective expression by providing a space for writers to talk through and develop their ideas in the presence of attentive readers. Although one-to-one consultations are a cornerstone of our work, the center also fosters the development of workshops, resources, and collaborations around writing and its instruction. Throughout this process, we emphasize writing as a social practice—a means of participating in intellectual communities committed to understanding conceptual or real-world problems.

Writing Center consultations and workshops are designed to foster student engagement, a core Pitzer value. Sessions are peer-led and inquiry-driven. Writing Center Fellows are Pitzer students trained in the teaching and tutoring of writing. In one-to-one sessions they ask questions that encourage students to discover and take ownership over their ideas. They also equip students with strategies they may carry forth in future assignments, like planning the writing process, framing arguments for specific audiences and purposes, and using sources to intervene in scholarly debates. In addition, Writing Fellows serve as leaders of writing on campus, helping facilitate workshops and participating in professional [conversations about Writing Center research](#) at regional and, in some cases, international conferences.

Throughout this process, the Writing Center builds community around writing, teaching, and learning. We believe learning to write is a life-long pursuit and all writers benefit from focused feedback on works-in-progress. We listen carefully to writers, giving their ideas attention and respect, and tailor our approach to support diverse learning styles.

To advance these goals, we offer:

- [One-to-one consultations](#) for writers on projects in any discipline
- [Workshops](#) on academic and professional writing
- Workshops on the teaching of writing
- Fellowship support through special consultations
- Handouts and reference works on academic writing
- Teaching support for Pitzer faculty
- Collaborations with students, faculty, librarians, and staff around writing and writing pedagogy
- Teaching, learning, and leadership opportunities for Pitzer Writing Center Fellows
- Courses on academic writing and pedagogy
- Research opportunities in writing studies (e.g., conference participation, program-building and curricular design)

*Special thanks to the Writing Center's 2013-14 Fellows, who helped draft and revise our mission statement in Spring 2014. Special thanks to Fellows enrolled in WRIT100, who helped revise this document in October 2014.*

Laney College, Oakland, CA (<http://www.laney.edu/wp/writingcenter/mission-statement/>):

- *The James Oliver Community Writing Center provides instructional support for writing, one-on-one tutoring on a Drop-In basis, supplemental instruction in English and ESL (Writing Workshops), and access to computers for use in completion of writing assignments. We welcome students at all skill levels, at any stage in the writing process for any course.*

Fullerton College, Fullerton, CA (<http://writingcenter.fullcoll.edu/>):

- The Fullerton College Writing Center strives to uphold the mission statement for Fullerton College:

*We prepare students to be successful learners.*

More specifically, the Writing Center's mission is to promote students' success and independence as writers in college and beyond. We also strive to provide an environment that is conducive to writing and learning and to serve as a model for peer interaction. We help writers make their own choices about a text rather than "fixing" papers for them. We don't write on students' papers; we counsel students about the choices they have as writers.

Mt. San Antonio College, Walnut, CA

(<http://www.mtsac.edu/writingcenter/missionstatement.html>):

- The Writing Center is dedicated to helping Mt. SAC students across the curriculum improve their writing and critical thinking skills. We believe that our role is not to "fix" students' writing or guarantee a particular grade but to guide them through a process of growth and development as writers. We believe that every writer needs a non-evaluating reader and that one-on-one, collaborative instruction is highly effective in meeting the unique challenges academic writing poses. We further believe that writing is at the core of critical thinking—indeed, knowledge in all disciplines is developed and verified through writing—and that the Center has a key supporting role to play in empowering students to construct knowledge both on campus and in the community at large. In this effort, we see the Writing Center as collaborating with faculty and support staff at Mt.SAC to help students develop the foundational skills that make such academic success and lifelong learning possible.

## 6. Colorado

Colorado School of Mines (<http://inside.mines.edu/Writing-Center-Mission-Statement>):

- The Writing Center is first and foremost a teaching center. We are here to assist CSM community members in becoming more confident and capable at communicating their ideas in writing. In order to help people in the process of achieving their writing goals, we work to enable them to learn how to write more effectively and to foster independence in writers.

We do this in several ways. Since most writers are more adept at conveying their ideas orally than in writing, writers benefit from discussing their ideas with an experienced writer; their oral abilities help create a bridge to strengthen their scribal ones. We also enable writers by demystifying the writing process, by relating the writing process to writers' learning styles, by breaking assignments into manageable parts, and by emphasizing the role of audience and purpose.

Since our mission is to empower writers, we do not work for them, but with them. For this reason, we do not copy edit papers for writers. Instead, we teach writers to be better proofreaders of their own writing through error pattern analysis, which entails:

- Identifying common reader distractions in their writing;
- Teaching strategies to improve those distractions;
- Providing guided practice at improving those distractions; and
- Encouraging independent practice followed by additional tutoring.

Faculty, students, and staff are welcome to use our services at any phase of their writing process, whether they have just received an assignment and are brainstorming for ideas or are in the final phases of their writing project. Our services are not limited to course-related assignments. Our faculty are here to work with writers working on any type of writing, including scholarship applications, résumés, and engineering reports.

University of Colorado, Colorado Springs: (<http://www.uccs.edu/writingcenter/mission.html>):

#### · **Philosophy**

Writing enables us to learn deeply, to think clearly, and to join the human conversation with confidence and authority. In support of writers entering the academic community, the Writing Center brings writers together with peer consultants to discuss the nature and presentation of ideas. The Writing Center serves as a site of literacy instruction within the University, providing support to student writers of all disciplines and abilities.

#### **Mission**

The Writing Center exists to promote excellence in writing and success in students' academic careers. We extend our services to our student writers, to our peer consultants, and to our University community.

**To Our Writers** - Because writers' needs are highly individualized, the Writing Center favors one-to-one or small group conferences, either in person or online. In our approach, we promote learning and critical thinking by helping writers focus on issues of meaning and by involving them in reflection on their own work. By building collaborative peer relations with student writers, we help students gain confidence, articulate ideas, acquire strategies, and learn the skills to engage effectively in their writing processes.

**To Our Consultants** - In addition to pursuing the same goals among ourselves as we do with all writers, the Writing Center supports the growth of our staff by encouraging a theoretical understanding of writing and critical, reflective consulting practices. The Writing Center facilitates conversations among peers, encourages continued intellectual curiosity and research, and supports communication and participation with the wider Writing Center community and beyond.

**To Our University Community** - In support of faculty efforts to promote student writing, the Writing Center serves faculty in all disciplines through classroom workshops, presentations, and classroom-based group conferences. We are prepared to collaborate

with faculty across the campus about writing, the teaching and assessing of writing, and the supporting of writing across the curriculum. We further support the University mission through our efforts to encourage student success, to recruit and retain excellent students, and to support institutional evaluation and assessment.

Aims Community College, Greeley, CO

(<http://www.aims.edu/student/online-writing-lab/writing-center/mission/>):

- The mission of the Aims Writing Center in the Learning Commons is threefold. First, we offer writing assistance for all Aims students across the curriculum in hopes of fostering confidence and self-sufficiency in all stages and aspects of the writing process. As such, **Aims Writing Center tutors are not editors and, therefore, do not proofread**, since doing so detracts from the goal of encouraging independent writers, able to self-edit.

Tutors will help students with organization, phrasing, and revising their work. Finally, tutors will work with all types of writing and with student writers of all levels of ability. We work with students who drop in and do not have to make an appointment. The Writing Center also assists students enrolled in reading classes.

## 7. Connecticut

Eastern Connecticut State University (<http://www1.easternct.edu/writingcenter/>):

- The mission of the Eastern Connecticut State University Writing Center is to support the development of student writers in a collaborative environment.

University of Connecticut, Hartford (<http://wcenter.hartford.uconn.edu/mission-statement/>):

- The Greater Hartford Writing Center exists to support and coordinate the writing efforts of students and instructors at UConn's Hartford campus. The Writing Center extends the interactive drafting work of the classroom by offering students access to trained professional and peer tutors. Our staff engages writers of all proficiency levels in one-on-one consulting sessions aimed at developing discipline-specific writing skills and student self-sufficiency.

The Writing Center works to ensure that students and instructors receive the level of quality, comprehensive support required by UConn's ambitious writing program.

Three Rivers Community College, Norwich, CT

([http://www.threerivers.edu/Div\\_academics/TASC/WritingCenter/WritingCenter.shtml](http://www.threerivers.edu/Div_academics/TASC/WritingCenter/WritingCenter.shtml)):

- The mission of the TRCC Writing Center is to give all students the tools and support they need to be successful and independent academic writers. We offer a range of services for students, faculty and staff covering four basic areas: walk-in and reserved appointments, classroom presentations, writing resources, and e-mail paper submission.

## 8. Delaware

University of Delaware, Newark, DE

(<http://www.cas.udel.edu/writing-center/Pages/default.aspx>):

- Located in 016 Memorial Hall, the writing center has fostered excellence in writing at the University of Delaware since 1967. To fulfill this mission, the center

- § Provides all university members the opportunity to develop their writing skills through one-to-one and small-group writing tutorials;

- § Advocates for writing as an essential part of learning through its Writing Fellows Program and workshops;

- § Improves local and national understanding of the writing and the process by leading writing-related research;

- § Contributes to the local community through writing-related community service.

Ultimately, the writing center is a place where all UD community members can come to write and to talk, think and learn about writing.

## 9. District of Columbia

The Catholic University of America (<http://english.cua.edu/wc/missionstatement.cfm>):

- The CUA Writing Center is committed to helping students develop as writers. To this end, we offer one-on-one consultations with student writers of all levels, at all stages of the writing process. We work with students in collaborative consultations where dialogue, practice, and discovery are paramount. Attentive listening, critical reading, and purposeful writing characterize the hallmarks of our sessions.

Georgetown Law

(<http://www.law.georgetown.edu/academics/academic-programs/legal-writing-scholarship/writing-center/mission-statement.cfm>):

- The Writing Center's purpose is to help students transition to the legal discourse community and support the Law Center's goal of developing strong legal writers across the curriculum. Through interactive, individualized conferences, The Writing Center provides all members of the Georgetown Law community with feedback on the writing process and on written work. Among its goals, the Center addresses the following concerns of Georgetown writers.

- Making the transition from another field of expertise, such as engineering or history, to legal discourse.
  - Approaching scholarly writing as a specific genre with defined scope, purpose, audience, substance, and technical concerns.
  - Using legal substance to organize effectively.
  - Improving legal writing by understanding it as a specific process performed under time pressure in both practical and academic legal settings.
  - Connecting substance to syntax.
  - Mastering English grammar.
  - Paying proper attention to legal citation form and footnotes in text.

Howard University (<http://www.coas.howard.edu/writingcenter/>):

- The Online Writing Center's mission is to assist you in developing your writing skills, helping you to become a more dynamic and confident writer. The OWC is best for those students who are taking distance learning courses or have particularly full schedules that prevent them from visiting Locke 100 for a face-to-face writing conference. At our site, you can search our writing resources, post questions, check papers for plagiarism, and submit

papers for review by our trained writing center staff. Please note that we do not provide proofreading services. Instead, our tutors will help you improve your papers by providing feedback on content, organization, unity, style, and grammar. [Sign up now!](#)

## 10. Florida

University of South Florida (<http://www.lib.usf.edu/writing/mission-statement/>):

- The Writing Studio at the University of South Florida encourages students to engage in writing as a process through brainstorming, drafting, and discussing their work. The Writing Studio embraces the vision of writing as constantly developing and changing.

Through writing center practice and outreach, the Studio looks to understand the role of writing at USF and adapt to meet the diverse needs of students, faculty, and staff. Most importantly, the Writing Studio seeks to provide a safe and open space for the university community to strengthen their writing skills through experimentation, engaged discussion, and practice.

Eckerd College, St. Petersburg, FL (<http://www.eckerd.edu/academics/writingcenter/>):

Update 2/1/16: URL is now broken...can't find WC mission statement. Looks like WC became part of Center for Innovative Learning.

- The mission of the Eckerd College Writing Center, consultants, and faculty is to assist all writers with competent and friendly advice about their projects during composition. We play the role of "writing coach," and you are free to take or reject our advice. The advantage to every writer we serve is that we give you a neutral trial run with experienced readers before you have to submit your work for evaluation. In one-to-one sessions, we act as catalysts to help you improve your writing skills. Through asking appropriate questions and offering thoughtful suggestions, we help you organize and clearly state your thoughts. We can help you at any stage of the writing process: from outlining to writing a rough draft to revising and polishing a final draft. It is our goal to help all students with whom we work to realize their potential as effective and efficient writers.

Florida Atlantic University (<http://www.fau.edu/ucew/WC/mission.php>):

- The University Center for Excellence in Writing supports and promotes writing for all members of the FAU community -- undergraduate and graduate students, staff, faculty and visiting scholars. The center's consultants are informed and sensitive readers who help writers become more reflective readers and more self-sufficient crafters of their written work. Consultants help students at any point in the writing process (i.e., brainstorming, drafting, revising) and with papers for courses, senior or master theses, dissertations, job applications, applications for graduate school, articles for publication, grant proposals and other documents. We provide writing aid rather than an editing service. Consequently, consultants may not get to all of a paper's issues, but writers will come away with a fresh perspective on their work as well as documents in which one or more aspects are improved.

## 11. Georgia

Darton State College, Albany, GA (<http://www.darton.edu/programs/Humanities/writing/>):

- In support of the mission statement of Darton State College, and within the context of the mission of the Humanities Division, the Darton State College Student Success Writing Center is designed to help students develop the writing skills necessary to achieve success in college courses at Darton. Writing proficiently ensures success academically and in the workplace. The Writing Center staff is committed to providing constructive feedback throughout the writing process, utilizing an active learning approach that allows students to take complete responsibility for their success. The Writing Center will assist in all writing assignments for all academic disciplines, not just English writing courses.

Kennesaw State University, Kennesaw, GA

(<http://www.kennesaw.edu/writingcenter/mission-statement.php>):

- The Kennesaw State University Writing Center strives to promote excellence in writing across the university community. In the Writing Center, writers from all disciplines and at all levels of ability learn how to improve their writing and their writing processes through one-on-one instruction, group workshops, and other writing-focused resources. The Writing Center encourages writing across the curriculum, supports the processes of peer review and revision, and serves as a resource center for the practical and theoretical aspects of composition and rhetoric.

University of Georgia, Athens, GA (<http://writingcenter.english.uga.edu/>):

- The Writing Center maintains a strong commitment to the excellence of all UGA students. We understand that writing is critical to excellence both in the classroom and in the professional future of each student we encounter, regardless of academic interests. We seek to assist students in understanding the writing process, elaborating on their ideas and theories, and evaluating and editing their own work.

Georgia College & State University, Milledgeville, GA (<http://www.gcsu.edu/writingcenter/>):

- The mission of the GC Writing Center is to help members of the GC community achieve success in their writing. Writing center consultants are trained to analyze writing in terms of six fundamental conditions adapted from Donald Murray's book *Write to Learn*: purpose, focus, the use of specifics as evidence, and/or the use of sense impressions as evidence, personal involvement, and organization. The goal of GC consultants is to help visitors acquire approaches, strategies, and attitudes toward writing that mean success, that result in clear, meaningful, powerful writing based on these fundamental things. Accordingly, consultants ask visitors to engage in activities (e.g., writing lists of specifics related to their topics that they can insert into their writing) that promote successful writing.

## 12. Hawaii

University of Hawai'i (<https://sites.google.com/a/hawaii.edu/writingcenter/about>):

- The Writing Center offers free assistance from experienced writers to all UHM students, faculty, and staff with all types of writing. Writing consultants assist writers with any stage of the composing process and work with them to strengthen their writing through focusing on such issues as organization, focus, and clarity -- elements essential to the effectiveness of a piece. Because we aim to equip writers with strategies, resources, and sharper skills, writing consultants do not "proofread" papers; instead, we assist each writer in developing his or her own ability to identify and address issues of grammar, syntax, usage, and style.

At the Writing Center, our goal is to support UHM community members in becoming better, more confident writers.

### 13. Idaho

North Idaho College, Couer d'Alene, ID

(<http://www.nic.edu/websites/default.aspx?dpt=105&pagelid=>):

- The North Idaho College Writing Center maintains a welcoming and individualized environment in which students of all different levels and abilities can further develop their writing skills.

The Writing Center seeks to fulfill its role by providing several different types of services:

- providing for scheduled one-on-one appointments with writing consultants
- assisting students on a walk-in basis maintaining a library of current writing resource materials
- encouraging Writing Across the Curriculum
- recording student satisfaction
- accommodating specific instructor requests and referrals

In addition to helping students with their current individual writing needs, the Writing Center upholds a student-centered environment that stresses the relationship between strong written and oral communication skills and success both in and beyond college. This environment not only helps students become more critical readers and more competent writers, but also promotes their success across the curriculum and encourages life-long learning.

### 14. Illinois

DePaul University, Chicago, IL (<http://condor.depaul.edu/writing/who/mission.html>):

- The University Center for Writing-based Learning promotes the development of writers, writing instruction, written texts, and the use of writing as a powerful and ubiquitous modality of and for learning. Grounded in the belief that language in general, and writing specifically, shapes and sustains democratic processes, the members of the University Center for Writing-based Learning community believe writing is an important means for an individual's participation in democracy in that writing promotes learning, critical inquiry, self-development, and reflection through continual revision. We are committed to both DePaul's shared vision to enhance "academic rigor" and DePaul's mission to promote personalism through appreciation of the "dignity of each individual." As such, we collaborate with writers from all disciplines, backgrounds, levels of expertise, and roles within the University community. Our goal is to help develop better writers along with better writing. Because we recognize the diversity of our community members in terms of not only their locations but their preferred ways of learning, we use all media of communication for collaboration. As we interact with individuals within the University Center for Writing-based Learning, the University, academic professions, and our global community, we aim to foster a commitment to peer tutoring, teaching, service, and scholarly and creative activities.

## 15. Indiana

Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis (<http://liberalarts.iupui.edu/uwc/>):

- The mission of the University Writing Center is to collaborate with both experienced and inexperienced writers, to serve as practice audiences, and to help students develop strategies for improving their writing process. Our consultants will help our fellow writers build confidence as they work to achieve their educational goals in a positive, intellectually-stimulating environment.

## 16. Iowa

University of Northern Iowa, Cedar Falls, IA (<http://www.uni.edu/unialc/writing-center/about-wc>):

- The Writing Center's mission is to challenge and support students in working toward excellence in writing, while facilitating the use of writing to improve academic engagement, practice critical thinking, develop creativity, and succeed in meeting academic and career goals.

University of Dubuque

(<http://www.dbq.edu/academics/academicsupportsuccess/academicsuccesscenter/writingcenter/>):

- The mission of the Writing Center of the University of Dubuque is to assist students to become self-determined, motivated, and independent writers over time. Whether working with students one-on-one or in small groups, our writing consultants aim to equip all writers with the confidence and strategies to engage successfully in the writing process. - See more at: <http://www.dbq.edu/academics/academicsupportsuccess/academicsuccesscenter/writingcenter/#sthash.8uwj57rF.dpuf>

## 17. Kansas

University of Kansas, Lawrence, KS (<https://writing.ku.edu/mission-diversity-statements>):

- We will provide qualified writing consultants who support the academic mission of the University so that you can work confidently in our writing centers.
- We will create an environment, at each of our sites (Writer's Roosts), that is accessible, comfortable, and productive.
- We will help you understand and practice writing-to-learn for writing in all subjects now and for writing in the future.
- We will help you understand and practice many strategies effective writers use, from brainstorming to editing.
- We will support your growth as a writer and provide the expertise, the resources, and the space and time to work with you on your writing while you are here at the University of Kansas.

## 18. Kentucky

University of Louisville (<http://louisville.edu/writingcenter/about-folder/mission-statement>):

- The University Writing Center considers writing to be an indispensable part of the intellectual life of the university as both a vital means of communication and an essential tool for learning. We serve all members of the university community--undergraduate and graduate students, faculty, and staff--by working with them to improve their writing projects and develop their abilities to become more effective writers. We believe that learning to write is an ongoing, life-long process and that all writers, from first-year students to faculty, benefit from discussing and collaborating on their work with thoughtful and respectful readers.

At the Writing Center we provide one-on-one consultations, writing resources, in-class workshops, and a comfortable place to write. Writing Center consultants can work with any piece of writing, whether for a specific course or for professional or personal development. We also welcome collaborative projects as well as multimedia projects. We are also a site for research on Writing Center theory and practice and are committed to being part of ongoing scholarly conversations about the teaching of writing.

Our philosophy of teaching writing begins with conceiving of writing as a process. We believe that the best writing develops through a process of invention, drafting, and revision - though the process is not always linear and direct. At all stages of the process, we believe that writers benefit from the kind of thoughtful response we offer at the Writing Center. In our consultations we engage in a dialogue with writers to help them develop their writing, and to become more effective and confident writers. We are not a drop-off editing service. Instead we want to ask the questions and offer the suggestions that will help writers understand how to make their own work stronger.

The Writing Center is dedicated to being a safe, inclusive environment. We work to make the Writing Center a welcoming place where writers feel comfortable bringing the diverse range of perspectives found in the university community. We are also committed to accommodating all writers and all learning styles. We do not grade or evaluate the writing we see, and we do not communicate what happens in a consultation to students' instructors without the permission of the student.

Campbellsville University, Campbellsville, KY

(<http://www.campbellsville.edu/writingcentermissionstatement>):

- The Campbellsville University Writing Center will uphold Campbellsville University's mission to support Christian Higher Education and the integrity of the CU Writing Center by actively engaging students and promoting confidence in all levels of undergraduate writing.
- The Writing Center will provide a confidential and welcoming environment to foster a love for writing and dispel anxiety in the writing process.
- The Writing Center will provide qualified peer consultants that promote responsibility in each student's writing session to combat becoming an editing service.

- The Writing Center will provide the expertise, the resources, the space, and time to work with student writers during their undergraduate work at Campbellsville University.

## 19. Louisiana

Louisiana State University, Shreveport

(<http://www.lsus.edu/offices-and-services/university-writing-center>):

- *The LSUS University Writing Center strives to improve and enhance students' writing skills through individualized peer consultations.*

Xavier University of Louisiana, New Orleans, LA

(<http://www.xula.edu/writing-center/overview.html>):

- The Writing Resource Center provides writer-centered, collaborative, non-evaluative writing assistance to freshmen, at-risk students, the general student population, and the entire Xavier community. The WRC is under the auspices of the Student Academic Success Office.
- The WRC is a comfortable, open, light-filled space in which students may work alone, with peer tutors, with the staff instructor, or with their classmates on their writing assignments and other student-authored texts during various stages of the writing process.
- The WRC also works closely with the English Department to provide extra assistance to students in English composition courses.
- The WRC aims to help students build fundamental writing skills, which should help them to maintain their high GPAs—both of which are essential to student success at Xavier University.
- The WRC also offers resource materials and bimonthly workshops that provide students with information that may help them to improve their writing. The tutoring, workshops, and resource materials that the WRC provides help students to become independent, confident, strong writers and critical thinkers who enjoy writing.

University of Louisiana, Lafayette (<http://english.louisiana.edu/about-us/writing-center/>):

- The focus of the [University of Louisiana at Lafayette's](http://english.louisiana.edu/about-us/writing-center/) Writing Center is on helping students develop the skills they need to improve their writing ability. At the Writing Center, students are encouraged to discuss their writing, whether they need help focusing ideas for their papers, help organizing their work, or help developing proofreading skills.

To this end, our goals are

- o To help students enhance their writing skills.
- o To help students move from writer-based to reader-based prose.
- o To focus on the writing process and the importance of creating multiple drafts.
- o To help students recognize the strengths in their writing, as well as problems.
- o To help students learn techniques to proofread their own work.
- o To empower students to learn to evaluate their own writing.
- o To nurture creative ideas.

## 20. Maine

University of Maine, Presque Isle (<http://www.umpi.edu/academics/english/writing-center>):

Update 2/8/16: This site no longer exists. WC has moved to Learning Commons and doesn't seem to have a web presence anymore?

- The UMPI Writing Center offers one-on-one tutoring for writers at all levels of course work on all types of writing, from first-year composition essays to senior theses, from biology book reviews to personal statements for graduate school applications. Writing consultants are trained to assist students at all stages of the writing process, from brainstorming a topic through revising a completed paper. The writing center's mission is to help writers develop skills and strategies that will help them not only with one paper, but with future writing.

## 21. Maryland

University of MD, College Park, MD (<http://www.english.umd.edu/academics/writingcenter/>):

- The Writing Center provides opportunities for undergraduate students to improve writing and thinking skills in their academic work, and also in preparation for their respective careers. In a comfortable and supportive atmosphere, trained consultants with a variety of majors assist writers individually at all stages of the composing process. For the university community, the Center also makes available printed and online materials, as well as workshops, on topics related to writing and teaching writing. The Center is also committed to involvement in professional activities, [including conducting research, that improve its service to students and contribute to writing center theory and practice.](#)

Towson University, Towson, MD (<http://www.towson.edu/cla/centers/writing/>):

- The Writing Center provides individual writing support to all members of the Towson community, including undergraduate and graduate students as well as faculty and staff members. We work with writers at any stage of the writing process from brainstorming to polishing a final draft.

We work with writers to develop and organize their thoughts, sharpen their focus, and communicate their ideas more clearly and precisely. We support writers with any type of writing project, whether a PowerPoint presentation for a sociology class, a lab report for biology, or a resume for a summer internship.

Loyola University, Baltimore, Maryland (<http://www.loyola.edu/department/writingcenter/about/>):

- **Eloquentia Perfecta**

*Eloquentia perfecta* is one of the chief aims of the Jesuit Liberal arts education. The Writing Center offers participants the chance to develop this Jesuit education ideal that began over 400 years ago. *Eloquentia perfecta* refers not only to "perfect speech," that traditional meaning of correct or elegant speech, but rather to speech which is perfect for the task of acting on the human spirit towards good and just action.

In the Jesuit tradition of working with others to reach a common goal, the Loyola Writing Center understands that writing requires input from others. The Loyola Writing Center offers consulting for the entire Loyola community of writers, including undergraduate and graduate students, as well as faculty and staff.

## 22. Massachusetts

Endicott College, Beverly, MA

(<http://www.endicott.edu/Undergrad/Academic-Resources/Writing-Center/Mission-Statement.aspx>):

- We believe that all writers, no matter how strong their skills, need an interested and attentive audience and learn best when actively engaged with their own writing. Our mission is to help all students improve as writers across disciplines and genres. The Writing Center mirrors the College's larger mission to act as a "student-centered institution that supports undergraduate and graduate students in their pursuit of knowledge." To that end, the Writing Center seeks to empower student writers to take full authority over their own writing: students are responsible for knowing their instructors' specific expectations and for the quality of all submitted work.

Tutors facilitate student-writers' own efforts and processes. They do not edit or do work for students. Instead, they encourage students to identify their own strengths and weaknesses and to understand how and why changes can be made. Tutors help students of all levels with any stage of writing or pre-writing. During the one-on-one time they spend together, tutors help students better understand the needs and expectations of different audiences and genres, point them to resources, and encourage them to write clearly and persuasively. Tutors emphasize the importance of addressing larger-level issues (ideas, argument, organization, and use of sources) before sentence-level issues (citation style, word choice, grammar, and punctuation).

Writing conferences are not limited to improving specific pieces of writing; rather, their ultimate purpose is to help students find their own voices as developing writers.

## 23. Michigan

Northern Michigan University, Marquette, MI (<http://www.nmu.edu/writingcenter/node/21>):

- The NMU Writing Center's mission is to aid the NMU community in achieving its writing goals. NMU undergraduate and graduate students, faculty, and staff may utilize our free, one-on-one live and online tutoring sessions with our trained and committed undergraduate and graduate students to get help with and feedback on any part of their writing process for any kind of personal, professional, or academic writing project. The NMU Writing Center is dedicated to improving expression and communication here at NMU and beyond.

Wayne State University (Writing Research and Technology Zone)

(<http://www.clas.wayne.edu/writing/MissionStatement>):

Writing is a skill that takes a lifetime to master. The WRT Zone is dedicated to supporting all writers on this path, regardless of their level, by helping them understand the conventions appropriate for their courses and discipline. We provide our writers with the tools they need to be successful with specific writing projects, but also focus on helping writers develop as writers and become self-reliant. We strive to build an academic culture with bridges that link students, faculty, and staff together by providing educational opportunities for the entire campus.

### Services

The WRT Zone is your academic partner, here to serve students, faculty, and staff alike. Undergraduate and Graduate students from all disciplines can work with Undergraduate and Graduate tutors in one-on-one tutoring, online tutoring, group sessions, and student-focused workshops. Come in early on in your writing process so that we can help you navigate the multiple levels of the writing process.

Faculty and staff can find a collaborative team that provides in-class visits, embedded tutoring, and guest lectures, and more.

Our services include, but are not limited to:

- Generating Ideas
- Developing Arguments
- Developing Research
- Working Through Drafts
- Revision
- Research Support
- Citation and Formatting
- Discipline/Genre Specific Writing Support
- Oral and Visual Presentations
- Personal Statements and Project Proposals

We can work with you on any forms of communication, including:

- Essays and Research Papers
- IMRAD and Scientific Research
- Reports for Engineering or Science Courses
- Graduate Theses or Dissertations
- ePortfolios or Other Online Assignments
- Personal Statements and Cover Letters
- Proposals
- Oral Class Presentations

Research and technology support is offered on a first-come-first served basis and covers research strategies, assessment of sources, general technology support, and help with Adobe Dreamweaver, Encore, Flash, Illustrator, Photoshop, and more. To make a face-to-face or online appointment, consult the Writing Center website:

<http://www.clas.wayne.edu/writing/appointments>

For more information about the Writing Center, please contact the Director, Jule Wallis (phone: 313-577-2544; email: au1145@wayne.edu)

## 24. Minnesota

Minnesota State University, Mankato, MN

(<http://www.mnsu.edu/success/tutoring/writing-center.html>):

- As part of the Center for Academic Success, the Writing Center is the primary on-campus source for free academic support in the areas of writing and modern languages. We design and implement innovative programming and services to assist all students with their development as confident and effective writers and communicators.

St. Cloud State University (<http://www.stcloudstate.edu/writeplace/about/default.aspx>):

- To maintain a fundamental philosophy of collaboration and inclusion. Within this core philosophy, to offer individualized help and encourage independence in all writers who use the center, respecting the writers' authority and ownership of their own written work.

To offer its graduate and undergraduate student staff a venue for professional development, primarily supporting their individualized development as effective peer consultants.

To respond to SCSU community writing needs in a timely, creative, and ethical manner to promote excellence in scholarship on all levels.

## 25. Mississippi

Mississippi State University (<http://www.writingcenter.msstate.edu/>):

- The Mississippi State University Writing Center dedicates itself to helping all MSU students to develop as writers.

To achieve this mission, the Writing Center, housed in Lee Hall 200, provides

- **Trained interns to assist students with their writing**
- Computers and software that assist students in drafting and revising their papers
- Print resources—dictionaries, grammar handbooks, documentation handbooks, readers—where students can find models to guide their work
- Comfortable tables and chairs, where students can talk with trained Interns about their progress and their problems with a given project.

To ensure that Interns provide appropriate and dependable guidance to student writers, the Director of the Writing Center trains the Interns in the craft and art of one-on-one pedagogy. Specifically, Interns learn to help students to

- Start a draft by thinking about the focus of an assignment, about their audience and purpose, about what they know and need to find out;
- Craft a thesis, shape an organization, and discover appropriate evidence to support their thesis;

- Revise their papers by determining to what degree they have supported their claims, documented their evidence, and served their readers' needs;
- Edit their own work for correctness in sentence structure, punctuation, verb forms, and pronoun usage.

Also, to ground the Center's mission in professional ethics, Interns learn to model academic integrity. Specifically, Interns expect students to

- Keep their appointments;
- Come to a session prepared, ready to participate in the writing conference;
- Think for themselves: Interns have been trained to ask questions that will start and sustain students' thinking;
- Retain responsibility for their own work: Interns will not edit or correct students' work.

To foster the idea that the Writing Center has a *university* mission, the Director will also sponsor and conduct workshops for MSU faculty from across the curriculum to help them to refine the ways they use writing in their courses to help students to learn the material.

University of Southern Mississippi - Gulf Coast, Long Beach, MS

(<http://www.usm.edu/gulfcoast/learning-commons/history-speaking-and-writing-center>):

· *The Gulf Coast Speaking and Writing Center provides free peer-to-peer tutorial services for all University of Southern Mississippi students. We strive to demystify the art of communication and nurture each student's writing and speaking abilities in a positive, non-threatening environment. Through a collaborative tutoring process, we aim to help students apply knowledge learned in class on an individual basis which leads to more confident and competent communicators.*

## 26. Missouri

Truman State University, Kirksville, MO (<http://writingcenter.truman.edu/>):

· The Truman State University Writing Center provides all writers on the Truman State University campus with a comfortable environment for conversations about writing. We help writers become better writers. Writing Consultants work with writers at all levels of competence, from all disciplines, at any stage of the writing process--generating ideas, drafting, revising, and editing. They also share ideas about writing strategies and techniques.

Webster University, St. Louis, MO

(<http://www.webster.edu/academic-resource-center/writingcenter/mission.html>):

· The Webster University Writing Center provides a friendly, welcoming place where writers receive one-on-one coaching in order to become independent writers and demystify the writing process.

Webster believes that effective writing, with its integration of communication techniques and critical thinking abilities, is necessary for people to function successfully and productively in a complex society that requires its members to be lifelong, independent learners. Webster, therefore, devotes considerable resources to the Writing Center and invites all its members to make use of these resources. Specialized handouts and access

to style manuals, handbooks, reference books, other print resources, and state-of-the-art computer hardware and software are all available at our headquarters in 40 Loretto Hall.

Students in all academic disciplines are invited to bring to the Writing Center papers in any stage of planning, drafting, revising, or editing, for individualized coaching sessions on site -- either by appointment or on a walk-in basis. Graduate coaches are available for Webster graduate students. Students from Webster's extended campuses are invited to send their papers to the Webster [Online Writing Center](#).

Writing Center coaches help students develop strategies to achieve their goals as writers. The coaches will not write or edit papers for students. Instead, coaches will listen, read carefully, ask questions, and provide guided practice to build confidence in the student's own writing and editing abilities.

## 27. Montana

University of Montana, Missoula, MT

(<http://www.umt.edu/writingcenter/aboutus/annulreports/annualreport.doc>):

### *For Faculty*

As a University hub for campus conversations about writing, The Writing Center helps undergraduate and graduate students in all disciplines become more independent, versatile, and effective writers, readers, and thinkers. We provide a comfortable environment where professional tutors engage students in supportive conversations about writing. Using a variety of strategies to honor a diversity of writers and writing, our tutors help writers at any point during their writing processes and with any writing task. Focused on the development of the writer, tutors help students to recognize their power as communicators and to practice strategies appropriate to various writing contexts. In each instance, the student writer retains responsibility for the written work and for all changes made to the work.

The Writing Center treats writing both as a mode of communication and as a way to learn, and encourages all members of the University community to think more explicitly about their writing processes and the decisions they might make as they write.

We offer faculty:

- o In-class orientations to The Writing Center
- o In-class workshops tailored to specific courses and assignments
- o Writing assignment design feedback and guidance
- o Ideas for incorporating writing – both graded and non-graded – into courses
- o Faculty workshops on using writing to enhance student learning in any course

### *For Students*

The Writing Center helps undergraduate and graduate students in all disciplines become more independent, versatile, and effective writers, readers, and thinkers. Welcoming all students, including international students, we provide a comfortable environment where

writers can engage in supportive conversations about their writing and where writers can receive feedback on their works in progress. Our professional tutors help writers at any point during a writing process and with any writing task. Focused on the development of the writer, tutors help students to recognize their power as communicators and to practice strategies that will help them write more effectively.

The Writing Center treats writing both as a mode of communication and as a way to learn, and encourages all members of the University community to think more explicitly about their writing processes and the decisions they might make as they write.

We offer students:

- o FREE one-to-one writing tutoring (available on a by-appointment and drop-in basis)
- o Guidance interpreting writing assignments
- o Reader feedback on any writing task, including research proposals and papers, response papers, reports, literature reviews, speeches, scholarship applications, graduate school applications, thesis projects, etc.
- o Help developing strategies for revision at any stage of a writing process
- o Workshops on specific types of writing and on the various parts of a writing process
- o Assistance building strategies for timed writing situations, including the UDWPA exam

## 28. Nebraska

University of Nebraska-Lincoln (<http://www.unl.edu/writing/our-mission>):

· The mission of the UNL Writing Center is to provide one-with-one tutoring in writing to all members of the UNL community. We work with writers at all stages of development and at every stage of the writing process. The Writing Center is dedicated to promoting and [supporting research in writing and writing pedagogy](#). We provide a site for ongoing research as well as encouraging engagement in writing research among our undergraduate and graduate staff. The Writing Center acknowledges the integral relationships between literacy education and the democratization of higher education. We are committed both to our role in increasing access to that education for all students and to the development, practice, and evolution of anti-oppression pedagogies. We are committed to cultivating a broad-based recognition of the value of World Englishes to both intellectual and public discourse. We ally with and advocate for writers from historically marginalized or oppressed groups and for writing that counters traditional accounts of “standard” academic English by extending conceptions of audience, purpose, and meaning.

The UNL Writing Center also contributes to the English department’s mission of fostering imaginative reasoning, with its emphases on social justice, diversity, community and civic engagement, and belonging--values that are at the heart of the work we do. We ask writers to imagine, within given rhetorical contexts, different possibilities for their writing, and, likewise, to reason through which possibilities will bring the most desired outcomes. By advocating for the mindful use of rhetorical strategies in context and the transfer of writing knowledge across

genres, the Writing Center underscores writers' empowered roles in shaping meaning within broader societal and academic contexts.

## 29. Nevada

University of Nevada, Reno (<http://www.unr.edu/writing-center/about/values>):

- The mission of the University Writing Center is to assist our students in any stage of the writing process through peer-to-peer consultation and small group instruction. Through this, we strive to create an academic community of strong and confident writers, both at the University of Nevada, Reno and in Northern Nevada.

## 30. New Hampshire

Nashua Community College, Nashua, NH

(<http://www.nashuacc.edu/academic-services/academic-success-center/writing>):

- The Learning Commons Writing Center at Nashua Community College strives to assist enrolled students become more confident writers and to increase their understanding of the writing process. The Writing Center offers each student an opportunity to discuss and refine their writing skills employed in various College curricula.

University of New Hampshire, Durham, NH (<http://www.unh.edu/writing/cwc/>):

- The CWC believes that all writers benefit from collaboration. Through writing conferences, we engage writers in a conversation about their writing—both the process of writing and their writing itself. On our side of the conversation, we ask questions to prompt self-reflection, critical thinking, and inquiry. We might also brainstorm with a writer, offer advice or suggestions, and/or model strategies for planning, drafting, and revising.

At the Writing Center, we emphasize development of ideas and revision. Our focus is on helping writers understand assignments, understand and work within specific genres of writing, work through the writing process, articulate and meet goals for their writing, brainstorm ideas, re-think or expand upon drafts, and learn self-editing techniques. Our ultimate goal is to help writers become comfortable with the writing process and embrace revision as a process of discovering new directions for their writing.

The Writing Center is not a remedial or editing service. Our goal is to engage students in a collaborative learning process so that they improve holistically as writers.

## 31. New Jersey

Bloomfield College, Bloomfield, NJ

(<http://www.bloomfield.edu/academics/academic-centers/citel/writing-center>):

- In accordance with the mission of Bloomfield College “to prepare students to attain academic, personal and professional excellence in a multicultural and global society,” the mission of the Writing Center is to enable students to attain excellence in all forms and levels of writing during their college careers and, as a result, in their chosen professions.

Consultants at the Writing Center utilize a student-centered approach and collaborate with writers to meet the writers' goals. The ultimate goal of the Center is to make Bloomfield College students conscientious, ethical, engaged, and independent writers and citizens.

The Bloomfield College Writing Center is a place where all types of writing at all levels can develop and flourish. The Writing Center invites faculty, student writers, and writing consultants to collaborate in the broadening and deepening of writing practices; it is also a site for inquiry, creativity, and excellence in written expression in all disciplines. The Writing Center works with other Bloomfield College departments to support excellence in writing throughout the campus and is available to serve faculty and staff who wish to obtain any form of assistance in their professional writing.

### 32. New Mexico

New Mexico Highlands University, Las Vegas, NM  
(<http://www.nmhu.edu/writing-center/mission-statement/>):

- The Writing Center welcomes undergraduate students in all disciplines who want guidance with papers in any field. Students can come at the beginning, in the middle, or near the completion of a writing assignment.

University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, NM  
(<http://caps.unm.edu/programs/writing-and-language-center/mission-statement.php>):

- The mission of the CAPS Writing & Language Center is to enhance writing and language learning across all academic disciplines at the University of New Mexico. Through interactions with the staff, students, and faculty who comprise the UNM community, the Writing & Language Center seeks to validate student writers in finding their own voice as writers and communicators.

### 33. New York

St. John Fisher College, Rochester, NY (<http://www.sjfc.edu/campus-services/writingcenter/>):

- The mission of the St. John Fisher College Writing Center is to support writing at all levels of post-secondary education. Our goals are to teach writing as a thinking and revising process by intervening in that process according to the requests and needs of the individual student writer; to support and promote students' entry into the academic discourse community; to provide opportunities for student tutors to grow as writers through the teaching of writing to others; to act as a resource for faculty interested in extending writing across the curriculum.

Bronx Community College, Bronx, NY (<http://www.bcc.cuny.edu/Writing-Center/>):

- Our mission is to empower students by providing quality collaborative tutoring, fundamental to Writing Center Theory and Practice, in a nonjudgmental space, from which they can leave with greater confidence as writers, having learned something new, having realized the value of their ideas and life experiences, and having found their voice.

Welcome to the Writing Center at Bronx Community College. Students who use our center can expect to receive personal, one-on-one instruction that will lead them to be independent learners, thinkers, and writers. We offer writing assistance in all subject areas including:

- CATW Preparation
- Psychology
- English
- Research Paper Writing
- ESL
- Sociology
- Geography
- All Sciences
- History
- All Writing Intensive Courses
- Art History

The Writing Center also has three rooms to serve students' different needs:

A large room for one-on-one tutoring

A large computer room containing 30 computers with internet access for research

small room for quiet writing

### 34. North Carolina

Mars Hill University, Mars Hill, NC

(<http://www.mhu.edu/academics/writing-center/mission-statement>):

- The Mars Hill University Writing Center has as its central goal the improvement of student writing. We believe that we accomplish this goal by helping *writers* to improve. As such, we welcome all students from all areas of campus at all phases of the writing process, from brainstorming to polishing a final draft. Writing, like any skill, takes practice; tutors in the WCenter encourage this practice through talking with clients, asking questions, making suggestions, and in general acting as interested and engaged readers who offer informed and insightful feedback. Since making better writers is our goal, we do not act as proofreaders or as teachers; instead, we are peer tutors who interact with writers to help them to produce their best work possible.

University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (<http://writingcenter.unc.edu/faqs/faq-answers/#f-1>):

Under "For Faculty" section of FAQ:

- We help individuals improve as writers. To this end, we focus on helping writers to develop skills no matter what their writing context. We help writers to make their own choices about a text rather than "fixing" papers for them. We don't write on students' papers; we counsel students about the choices they have as writers.

Students who work with a tutor often see improvement in their writing and feel better prepared for courses that require written work. Students may visit the Writing Center occasionally with questions about specific assignments or meet regularly with a tutor to

improve their writing habits. They often visit with concerns about developing arguments, organization, evidence, and sentence-level issues.

University of North Carolina, Greensboro

(<http://www.uncg.edu/eng/writingcenter/philosophy.php>):

· The mission of our Writing Center is to connect writers with readers. This helps to make good writers better writers. It also encourages writers to develop an awareness about themselves that will help them after they leave the Writing Center. To support this philosophy, our center practices a collaborative approach to sessions, where students and consultants engage in one-on-one conversations about writing—conversations that center on shared knowledge and expertise, as opposed to hierarchical instruction that treats writing center sessions as remediation. Understanding our center as a place where collaboration and shared knowledge guide our practices supports a view of writing center work that grants both students and consultants authority, rather than consultants alone, which is critical. If we are truly to help students become better writers over time, they must be in control of that process and participate actively in their writing center sessions.

Here are some practices that support our Center’s philosophy:

1. Writers and consultants sit next to each other rather than across the desk.
2. Writers are the only ones writing on their papers, not us. This allows students to retain ownership of their writing.
3. Consultants ask writers engaging, introductory questions such as “What are you working on today?” This dialogue helps writers recognize and actively share where they are at in their writing process.
4. Consultants will give writers their undivided attention, using eye contact, body language, tone of voice, and conversation that reflect genuine interest in them and their writing.
5. Consultants will find out logistics from writers first: when is the paper due, have they received a grade / instructor feedback, and what the specific assignment is.
6. Consultants will ask writers to explain as much as they can about the assignment and their attitudes toward it, their writing process, and their own thinking about the writing *before* we even read the paper. This will allow writers to set their own terms for how the sessions will go, and it will allow consultants and writers to set an agenda together.
7. We will always read writers’ work ***out loud***. First, this approach helps people “hear” their writing so that, by the time the paper is read, writers might already have a sense of what they want to work on. Second, this requires all parties to participate collectively.
8. After the paper is read, consultants will ask writers how they feel about the writing they heard, and the answers and reactions will determine the starting point of the conversation. Consultants will respond to papers in relation to what students describe as their intentions or concerns. The purpose is not to evaluate but to describe reactions *as an attentive reader*. We function to provide direct, honest feedback, not evaluation (e.g., “This part of the paper is really clear to me, and I like your phrasing. This part, though, confuses because I expected...” or “Okay, as a reader, I understand that you want to persuade people to vote, but this part talks about the inconsequentiality of voting. How are these related?”).

9. The consultant and the writer will focus on a set of issues (constructed by writers and consultants together through dialogue), rather than every issue that is present in the paper. First, the latter is not possible. Second, it isn't the mission of the writing center for students to leave with a PERFECT paper. As Stephen North says, our main goal is to help the writers, not just the writing.

10. Consultants will provide *instruction* as needed, talk with writers about *strategies* they might try, or suggest *options* they may want to consider. However, consultants will leave the decision-making and the actual writing up to writers.

11. We will end sessions by having writers articulate what they are going to do with their paper once they leave the Center. That way, they have a sense of what to do next.

Of course, these are not the only practices that support a collaborative approach to writing center sessions. Just remember: we connect writers with readers and provide a forum for productive conversation that helps people better understand themselves as writers.

### 35. North Dakota

University of North Dakota, Grand Forks, ND (<http://und.edu/academics/writing-center/>):

- The mission of the Writing Center is to serve as a resource on writing for the university community. We help people as they seek to improve their writing by offering positive, constructive responses to their work in any genre or discipline and at any stage of the writing process. We believe that the development of writing abilities is a life-long process, and that writing is a skill and art that enables people to create and communicate ideas.

North Dakota State University, Fargo, ND ([http://www.ndsu.edu/cfwriters/mission\\_statement/](http://www.ndsu.edu/cfwriters/mission_statement/)):

- The Center for Writers serves the North Dakota State University community by providing free writing assistance to students, faculty, and staff in all departments at all levels in the following ways:
  - by providing a supportive environment where writers and readers work efficiently one-on-one or in small groups
  - by training writing tutors to become effective readers of and responders to texts from various disciplines
  - by helping faculty develop and refine writing assignments and assess student writing effectively and efficiently
  - by helping faculty and staff with questions about their own writing.
  - by helping students improve their strategies for writing proficiently and independently

### 36. Ohio

Ohio State University at Lima

(<http://lima.osu.edu/current-students/the-learning-center/the-writing-center/mission-statement.html>):

- Vision: The Ohio State University at Lima Writing Center offers a friendly and supportive environment for students with a wide variety of writing needs. Not only do we make every

effort to encourage and to motivate the students who pass through our doors, we insist on providing them with the highest quality tutoring available, assisting them not only with the written project in hand but also with the general quality of their written work. In addition, we intend to work together with the faculty to become a trusted and reliable campus resource.

Goals: We have three primary goals at the Writing Center:

- To work in a partnership with the faculty to identify and assist those students with the greatest writing needs. Offering these students focused, extended, and personalized tutoring will increase their chances of becoming successful college-level students.
- To assist all of our OSU-Lima students in improving their writing capabilities for their academic classes. Students across the spectrum of writing ability should be encouraged to set up appointments and to benefit from our tutoring services.
- To offer help for students with writing projects not directly related to their academic classes. Students may want assistance in the preparation of materials such as job letters and graduate school applications, and we should make ourselves useful in these endeavors.

Kent State University, Kent, OH (<http://www.kent.edu/writingcommons>):

· "Maybe in a perfect world, all writers would have their own ready auditor... who would not only listen but draw them out, ask them questions they would not think to ask themselves. A writing center is an institutional response to this need."

- Stephen M. North

"The Idea of a Writing Center." *College English* 46.5 (1984): 433-46.

Writing Commons Mission Statement:

- As the university writing center, the Writing Commons supports KSU students at all levels and in every academic discipline with any projects that include writing.
- We assist writers at every stage of the composing and revising process.
- We help writers at every level of proficiency to experience the satisfaction of developing effective written communication.

All student writers can benefit from the feedback and support the Writing Commons provides. Visit us to see how we can help you!

### 37. Oklahoma

University of Tulsa, Tulsa, OK

(<https://artsandsciences.utulsa.edu/centers-clinics-galleries-institutes/helen-n-wallace-writing-center/>):

2/17/16 Update: mission statement no longer included

· The University of Tulsa Writing Center will support the university community's writing endeavors in all aspects of the composing process. The primary goal of the Writing Center is to enhance classroom instruction by providing personal and in-depth guidance to student writers. Writing Center consultants are skilled in diagnosing weaknesses in student writing and in helping students learn to write professionally and confidently. Additionally, the

consultants are experienced in helping ESL students tackle the demands of writing in English. The consultants will work with students in a collaborative effort to engage in the writing process as a whole, from brainstorming to editing, focusing on the revision and rewriting of the work at hand. From generating the initial ideas to polishing the final draft, the Writing Center will offer a constructive, hands-on approach to writing, enabling students to express themselves with confidence and clarity. The Writing Center will provide a “second set of eyes” throughout students’ undergraduate careers, reminding them that the best writing is never accomplished alone.

University of Oklahoma, Norman, OK (<http://www.ou.edu/content/writingcenter/about.html>):

- Our goal is to provide support for all writers in the University of Oklahoma community.

The Writing Center Staff is committed to:

- Working with you to improve your writing projects by providing print resources and feedback in writing consultations.
- Consulting with you through your writing process from pre-writing to final drafting. Offering multiple and accessible ways for you to learn collaboratively with us.

*The OU Writing Center welcomes all writers and does not discriminate on the basis of race, gender, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity, age, marital status, veteran status, or disability. We consider difference to be a seed for learning, writing, and a just society.*

### 38. Oregon

Oregon State University, Corvallis, OR (<http://writingcenter.oregonstate.edu/mission-statement>):

- The mission of the Oregon State University Writing Center is to support Oregon State University students, staff, and faculty in all facets of the writing process, to facilitate the growth of individual writers, and to foster strong academic and creative writing communities. The Writing Center fulfills this mission through mentoring and training a corps of undergraduate and graduate student writing assistants who work directly with students and with other Writing Center constituencies. Through both its campus and online services, the Writing Center also works with students at a distance and members of the Oregon community and beyond.

Eastern Oregon University, Burns, OR (<https://www.eou.edu/writing-center/>):

- The mission of the EOU Writing Center is to promote students’ confidence in their practice of writing processes and critical thinking, and to support faculty across the university in teaching writing in their disciplines. **Writing tutorials are free of charge to all EOU students, undergraduate and graduate.**

To fulfill this mission, the Writing Center:

- Trains students to collaborate as [peer writing tutors](#)
- Manages [schedules](#) and communication to facilitate student/tutor collaboration
- Provides ongoing [tutor development and professionalization](#) opportunities for on-campus, online, and on-site students
- [Supports faculty](#) in designing and assessing writing assignments and curricula
- Maintains an [archive](#) of resources and research on disciplinary writing

### 39. Pennsylvania

Slippery Rock University, Slippery Rock, PA:

(<http://www.sru.edu/academics/colleges/chfpa/english/pages/wcpolicies.aspx>):

New URL: <http://www.sru.edu/academics/academic-services/academic-support>

- The following statement is to inform all faculty and students of the purpose, policies, and procedures concerning Writing Center assistance and the main guidelines tutors will use in working with students seeking assistance with writing. The main purpose of the Writing Center is to provide individualized, supplementary assistance to all students who request help with writing. To this end, tutors are trained to respond to student writers in ways that best meet their individual and immediate needs. Our goal is "to produce better writers, not better writing".

Temple University, Philadelphia, PA (<http://www.temple.edu/writingctr/who-we-are/mission.asp>):

- The Writing Center's mission is to empower Temple students to effectively and eloquently communicate through the written word. We provide individualized support for both graduate and undergraduate students. Writers at all levels of experience benefit from talking about their work with a supportive reader. Writers at any stage in the writing process—from brainstorming ideas to the final stages of revision—are welcome to bring assigned writing (like essays, research papers, or presentations), writing for professional purposes (resumes, application essays, or cover letters), and self-sponsored or personal writing to the Writing Center. Our tutors are talented writers from across the disciplines who will offer a friendly and supportive, but careful and critical response to your writing-in-progress. Writing Center tutors respect writers' rights to make choices about their own writing and believe Temple students are academically motivated; therefore our tutors expect writers to come to the center ready to actively engage in discussions of their writing, and will not take over or appropriate any writers' work. Because developing strong writing practices is a life-long learning experience, we encourage writers to visit the center early and often throughout their writing process.

Indiana University of Pennsylvania, Indiana, PA (<https://www.iup.edu/writingcenter/>):

New URL: <https://www.iup.edu/writingcenter/about/>

- Since its establishment in 1971 by Prof. Lorrie J. Bright, known then as the Composition Clinic, the IUP Writing Center's mission has been to help students become better and more self-sufficient writers. To accomplish this goal, Writing Center tutors offer one-on-one tutoring and group workshops. The Writing Center also provides consultations with faculty members and online resources.

The Writing Center is based on a peer-tutoring model of instruction. Trained tutors in the Writing Center are best able to help students who already possess the basic skills they need to earn passing grades in their writing classes. To remediate serious writing problems, we recommend students enroll in a semester-long writing course.

Tutors must limit the amount of time they can devote to requests for multiple sessions or those involving long papers, theses, or dissertations. Graduate students should work with

graduate tutors. Students who have special instructional needs should convey their needs to their tutor, keeping in mind that tutors are not trained to work with special needs.

The Writing Center director works with faculty members to ensure that the center supports and complements the curriculum. The director is also responsible for keeping the center technologically current and involved in research and professional organizations related to Writing Center work at the regional and national levels.

Other goals of the Writing Center include: (1) Developing the center's website resources to help writers working online; (2) Helping students and faculty to use the center for research in composition; (3) Helping undergraduate and graduate tutors to develop professionally; and (4) Providing help to students to find and document sources for their writing, to compose scholarship applications and goal statements, and to write résumés and cover letters.

Villanova University, Villanova, PA

(<https://www1.villanova.edu/villanova/artsci/acsp/writingcenter/mission.html>):

· Writing is one of the most difficult tasks for a college student, whether you're an incoming freshman or an outgoing graduate student. We, the peer tutors of the Villanova Writing Center, are your classmates; we eat lunch with you every day, we sit next to you in class, and we're responsible for handing in the same papers and assignments as you.

Most importantly, we understand how demanding the writing process is, and we're confident we can lend you a hand with yours. We're here six days a week ready and willing to serve your writing needs, whether it's brainstorming a new topic, revising a first draft, or putting the finishing touches on a final draft, we'll take you through every step of the process.

We encourage you to come to the Writing Center at any stage of your writing process. You don't need to have a formal draft with you, feel free to bring in an outline, or bring in a disk and work on our computers with a peer tutor. However, we do ask that you bring in your assignment for your peer tutorial, and simply give us 50 minutes of your time. Although we can't guarantee an "A" on every paper, we can guarantee, by the end of your 50 minute session, you'll come away more confident with your writing process, and feel more comfortable using your writing skills for any future assignment at Villanova.

As Stephen North best put it, our main goal in the Writing Center is to "produce better writers, not better texts." To do so, we try very hard to provide the most comfortable and relaxed atmosphere to work on your writing process.

#### **40. Rhode Island**

Rhode Island College, Providence, RI (<http://www.ric.edu/writingcenter/mission.php>):

· In keeping with the Rhode Island College mission statement, which asserts that the College is committed to the intellectual growth and development of students, the Writing Center's goal is to work with writers to explore and develop their ideas, to become aware of the needs of their readers, and to learn the rhetorical and syntactical strategies necessary for effective communication. The staff works with students at all levels and in all disciplines,

and the Center's services are available to all members of the College community and occasionally to community groups as well.

Because students are usually more comfortable working with other students, the staff is comprised of peer tutors. These students complete extensive training in composition theory. Since the tutors recognize that there are many different learning styles, they are equipped to offer a variety of strategies in either one-to-one or group tutorials. The emphasis is on individual growth from writing experience to writing experience rather than on the individual paper.

In addition to working with students, the Center also provides tutorial services to staff and faculty and supports writing initiatives throughout the academic community. The director is a permanent member of the Writing Board and works closely with the director of the Writing Program as well as with faculty from all departments to promote writing in the disciplines. As part of this mission, the director also maintains a writing resource library for faculty, staff, and students and is available as a resource to anyone at Rhode Island College.

#### 41. South Carolina

University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC

(<http://artsandsciences.sc.edu/write/university-writing-center>):

New URL: <http://artsandsciences.sc.edu/write/mission>

· The USC Writing Center is committed to helping writers take advantage of all the opportunities for learning that exist within the writing process. The Center's Mission is to help writers in all academic disciplines develop their writing abilities, to promote research in collaborative methods of teaching writing, to train graduate students in writing center teaching and administration, and to provide writing resources to the larger academic community.

To fulfill this mission, the Writing Center staff performs the following tasks:

- In one-on-one sessions, we work with University students at every stage of the writing process.
- In cooperation with the Academic Centers for Excellence, we use satellite centers to offer more convenient accessibility to our services and expand USC's writing community.
- Through seminars, workshops, and consultations, we help university educators incorporate writing into their classes.
- We provide resources about writing and writing centers to students, faculty, staff, and the public through our website.

#### 42. South Dakota

Black Hills State University, Spearfish, SD

(<http://www.bhsu.edu/writingcenter/AboutUs/OurMission/tabid/11603/Default.aspx>):

· Writing can be difficult. Frustrating. Mind numbing. Boring. Torturous, even. At the Writing Center, we understand. We also understand, however, that writing can be **exciting. Interesting. Challenging.** When you are interested in what you are writing about, and when you are invested in the project, writing becomes something more than a grade. It

becomes a site of personal expression, of new knowledge, of social and individual awareness, and of intellectual growth and mastery. At the writing center, we work to transform your writing apprehension into appreciation, to help you find ownership and merit in your work. At the writing center, we work to take the sting out of writing.

Our mission is to help you become a better writer. Rather than offering editing services, we work with you to strengthen all aspects of your writing process to help you gain confidence in writing and in the texts that you produce. With that in mind, we begin where you do. For academic writing, a session will be beneficial to you when you are:

- **choosing and narrowing a topic**
- **developing a thesis**
- **generating ideas for support and development**
- **organizing ideas**
- **researching and documenting sources**
- **drafting**
- **revising and editing**

In addition to **academic essays, papers, and speeches**, we offer guidance for **resumes, application letters, and personal statements**. Consultants can also help with review and tutoring for the writing portion of the Rising Junior Exam, the Informational Literacy Exam, and the writing portion of pre-professional tests such as the GRE, PRAXIS, and LSAT.

In addition to these services, we can also help you and your group members with **group writing projects**; please be sure to indicate the number of writers in the group when scheduling a session.

The Writing Center is here for your writing needs. Our goals are to enable you to compose more fluently and with less apprehension and fear; to provide support when you are struggling with a writing project; to assist you with the further development of your critical thinking skills; and to acquaint you with the conventions and expectations of academic writing. We can help you become a stronger and more diverse writer. Please contact us today to schedule an appointment.

### 43. Tennessee

Middle Tennessee State University, Murfreesboro, TN (<http://www.mtsu.edu/uwc/mission.php>):

- The Margaret H. Ordoubadian University Writing Center provides a relaxed, yet professional atmosphere in which writers from across the curriculum can become more comfortable with processes of writing. Our primary goal is to foster independent writers who are capable of recognizing and capitalizing on their strengths as well as identifying and correcting their weaknesses. In addition, we want to help our graduate Writing Assistants become better teachers by exposing them to writers at all levels and a variety of syllabi and paper assignments. We understand literacy as a set of social practices and see the writing center as a vibrant learning community on campus; therefore, we encourage all of our staff to cultivate relationships—with faculty and students—that will enrich their

learning experiences and their writing in particular. The University Writing Center wants to provide timely, relevant support for instructors, and we want to inspire the larger MTSU community with our love of language and learning.

Mission has been slightly altered (checked 3/14/16):

The Margaret H. Ordoubadian Writing Center provides a relaxed, yet professional atmosphere in which writers from across the curriculum can become more comfortable with processes of writing. Our primary goal is to foster independent writers who are capable of recognizing and capitalizing on their strengths as well as identifying and addressing concerns. We seek to provide timely, relevant support for instructors, staff, and students at all levels. Understanding literacy as a set of social practices, we see the Writing Center as essential to literacy learning both on our campus and in the broader communities.

Jackson State Community College, Jackson, TN (<http://www.jscc.edu/writing-center/>):  
New URL (3/14/16): <http://www.jscc.edu/academics/programs/writing-center/>

- The Writing Center is an open and supportive learning community where you can come to write, to think, and to collaborate on writing assignments with your peers. In our center, we focus on writing as a process rather than just a means to an end. Our mission is to help create better writers, not just better papers. We encourage you to come in at any and every stage of the writing process, from brainstorming to putting the finishing touches on your paper. No matter the stage of your writing, we will help you with the aspects of your paper with which you are most concerned. We do our best to help you with organization and structure first, so we can focus on grammar and syntax later on in the process.

It is important to us that you maintain ownership over your written work, so our writing consultants will guide you through the writing and revision process in a way which will ensure that your own voice emerges as clearly as possible. We are here to help you with any assignment from any class, and we will also help you with personal writing projects, including scholarship applications, creative projects, etc. So, when you begin thinking about your next writing project, think about coming in to Jackson State Community College's Writing Center.

Rhodes College, Memphis, TN (<http://www.rhodes.edu/writingcenter/>):

- The Writing Center at Rhodes College is dedicated to cultivating strong, independent writers. At the Center, a trained tutoring staff maintains a peer-to-peer teaching environment in which student writers of all levels can receive assistance at any stage of the writing process and for writing in any discipline. The Center also provides instructional resources and staff support to faculty teaching writing in their courses.

Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN (<http://vanderbilt.edu/writing/about/>):

- The Writing Studio fosters conversation, collaboration, and critical reflection on writing. Open to all members of Vanderbilt's scholarly community, the Studio provides opportunities to receive constructive feedback from trained consultants and to develop strategies for all stages of the writing process.

#### 44. Texas

Texas A&M International University, Laredo, TX (<http://www.tamiu.edu/uc/writingcenter/>):

- The primary mission of the Writing Center at Texas A&M International University (TAMIU) is to support the instructional goals of the faculty by providing free individual and small-group tutoring sessions, peer review sessions, and writing workshops to TAMIU students.

Writing tutors are specially trained students and paraprofessionals who have demonstrated excellence in working with others on the continued development of their written communication skills.

In order to develop more confident and competent writers, tutors provide guidance in developing, revising, and editing students' papers. Tutors listen and respond to students' works in progress, ask questions, and point out particular areas to focus on for improvement. Since the goal of tutoring is to develop increasingly independent writers, tutors will not correct errors or rewrite students' work; instead, during the course of a tutoring session, they will focus on one or two types of improvement strategies students may employ to produce more effective written work.

Tutoring sessions generally last from twenty minutes to one hour, depending on the needs of each student. Students may drop in or make prior arrangements for an appointment. Faculty members may arrange standing appointments for those students who demonstrate particular needs in developing their written or oral English skills.

The Writing Center also provides support for literary and writing-oriented organizations, clubs, and departments at Texas A&M International University, as well as outreach services to foster the continued growth of literacy activities within the local community.

University of Texas-Pan American, Edinburg, TX

([http://portal.utpa.edu/utpa\\_main/daa\\_home/writing\\_home/writing\\_about/about\\_mission](http://portal.utpa.edu/utpa_main/daa_home/writing_home/writing_about/about_mission)):

- The University Writing Center strives to provide a positive writing climate on the UTPA campus by offering writing assistance to the university community. To this end, the UWC mission includes the following goals:
  - To serve the UTPA community by assisting students, faculty, and staff to become better writers, critical thinkers, and effective communicators.
  - To provide an awareness of the UWC services by offering in-class presentations and workshops, and campus-wide publicity of the UWC.
  - To offer face-to-face tutorials for students who need writing feedback, as well as to create a virtual environment through the on-line weekend writing service.
  - To encourage Writing Across the Curriculum initiatives through services such as peer tutoring, in-class workshops, and faculty workshop support.
  - To assist WAC by housing WAC text resources.
  - To provide information, resources, and links related to the writing process through topic-related workshops, the UWC website, and available printed handouts.

Texas State University, San Marcos, TX

(<http://www.writingcenter.txstate.edu/About-Us/Mission-Statement.html>):

New URL (3/14/16): <http://www.writingcenter.txstate.edu/About/Mission-Statement.html>

- From its formation in 1984, the Writing Center's primary goals were student academic success and empowerment. Today, the Writing Center continues to improve student writing via 1:1 tutoring. To fulfill this mission, the Writing Center hires and trains accomplished student writers and thinkers to serve as writing guides. Each semester, the Writing Center offers approximately 3,000 individualized tutorials. The Writing Center staff also offer minicourses on a variety of writing-related topics such as creating resumes, writing the in-class essay exam, and thesis/dissertation writing and bi-weekly punctuation/usage/grammar exam review.

Dallas Baptist University, Dallas, TX (<http://www3.dbu.edu/uwc/>):

- The central theme of Dallas Baptist University's [mission statement](#) is to train students to be servant leaders in their communities. The University Writing Center staff recognizes the correlation between clear effective communication and strong leadership. Therefore, it is the Writing Center's purpose to offer student support in communication skills at any level and any discipline through consultation with qualified and trained writing consultants in a special facility set aside for this use. In this manner, students' leadership abilities can be enhanced with strong communication skills. It is also the purpose of the Writing Center to offer strong support to the faculty of Dallas Baptist University in their efforts to stress to their students the importance of a strong writing ability for a strong leadership profile.

## 45. Utah

Westminster College, Salt Lake City, UT

([http://www.westminstercollege.edu/writing\\_center/?parent=3066&detail=3101](http://www.westminstercollege.edu/writing_center/?parent=3066&detail=3101)):

- Westminster College consists of a community of learners with a long and honored tradition of caring deeply about students and their education. Founded in Fall 2004, the Westminster College Writing Center is proud to continue that tradition. As part of the Information Commons, the Writing Center is committed to helping students to engage with ideas, investigate rhetorical choices, and make informed decisions about their own writing.

The Writing Center is dedicated to helping students of all levels and abilities, from all disciplines, at any stage of the writing process. Our services include one-on-one and small group peer writing consultations in areas such as

- Generating, organizing and developing ideas
- Proofreading written work effectively
- Writing persuasively
- Conducting research
- Citing and quoting sources responsibly

In addition to these student services, the Writing Center offers support for faculty who teach writing and assign writing in their courses. To achieve that goal, the Writing Center collaborates with other departments and programs to assess and develop writing curricula. The Writing Center also maintains a small library on writing theory and practice available to all members of the College community.

Writing Center instruction conforms to the Westminster College Policy on Academic Honesty, insisting that all academic work be the honest product of each student's own endeavors.

## 46. Vermont

University of Vermont, Burlington, VT

(<https://www.uvm.edu/wid/writingcenter/?Page=about.html&SM=submenu1.html>):

· The Writing Center's mission is to support members of the UVM community with writing projects. We try to engage students in a dialogue about their work that not only meets their immediate needs in relation to a specific writing project but also helps them develop as writers.

We believe all students bring a variety of differences to a session that shape how the tutor and writer can best work together. By embracing diversity in all of its forms, the Writing Center strives to provide an inclusive, respectful, and socially just environment for all members of the UVM community, leading to better sessions and better papers.

### **To accomplish our mission, we are committed to**

- promoting academic excellence through the collaborative analysis and questioning of student, faculty, and institutional expectations for writing;
- maintaining a dynamic staff well-versed in the tenets of academic writing who are open to and curious about the creative interpretation of those tenets, and informed and competent in the tools and technologies available to bring writing assistance to the UVM community;
- recognizing that difference provides a powerful tool for learning (including differences in literacy and cultural backgrounds, learning and composing styles, ability/disability, race, class, gender, sexual orientation, and personality type);
- creating a place that is welcoming, accessible, and comfortable to all members of the community;
- recruiting and preparing tutors who are committed to diversity and social justice; and
- designing our spaces and services so that they naturally accommodate a wide range of writers (for our approach to disability, see [Disability and the UVM Writing Center](#))

— *This statement was created by the Writing Center tutors in 2013.*

## 47. Virginia

George Mason University, Fairfax, VA (<http://writingcenter.gmu.edu/about-the-wc>):

· The George Mason University Writing Center is committed to supporting writers in the Mason community as they work to construct and share knowledge through writing. We provide writers with the opportunity to test out ideas with a tutorial staff comprised of trustworthy and attentive readers and listeners. We believe that the best writing support is achieved with tutors who listen and ask questions in order to foster a writer's own curiosity. We help writers develop the strategies and knowledge that make them stronger writers in

the long term. We believe that achieving a strong piece of writing takes time, multiple drafts, and revision. We support writers from the beginning, exploratory stages of the writing process to the final phases of polishing the final version.

In service of these ideals we offer the Mason community the following:

- Supportive and well-trained graduate and undergraduate tutors who are invested in the writing process, as they are experienced writers themselves
- ESL specialist tutors with a linguistics background
- An administrative staff well versed in current teaching and tutoring writing research and practice
- The opportunity to meet with tutors face-to-face or to receive email-based tutoring through our Online Writing Lab
- A collaborative relationship with Mason libraries to support writers in their research and research integration
- Writing workshops designed to address the needs of student writers
- A wealth of resources in the form of guides, handbooks, and handouts available in hardcopy or electronically at our website
- A quiet space to write, read, study, and think

We believe that all writers, students and professionals alike, should have access to this support. As such:

- We work with students and professionals from all disciplines and departments
- We work with faculty by helping their students meet university-wide expectations and those expectations outlined in individual courses
- We work with alumni to cultivate their success as writers beyond the university context
- We work with all students—undergraduates, graduates, native English speakers, multi-lingual writers, international students, experienced and beginning writers—on any writing task including personal, creative, and academic work

Liberty University, Lynchburg, VA

(<http://www.liberty.edu/academics/graduate/writing/?PID=17176>):

- In support of the University mission, [Liberty's Online Writing Center](#) (OWC) helps online students at any level of written English proficiency identify, understand, and improve their academic writing strengths and weaknesses.

Virginia Military Institute, Lexington, VA (<http://www.vmi.edu/content.aspx?id=2811>):

- The Writing Center complements and extends the writing instruction cadets receive in the classroom by providing help with a full range of activities to improve their writing, at any level and in any discipline.

Professional tutors work with cadets in one-on-one conferences on every aspect of the writing process, from planning a paper to polishing the final draft.

Tutors assist with a wide variety of writing projects:

- essays and research papers;
- summaries and abstracts;
- case studies and lab reports;

- presentations and speeches;
- letters of application and resumes;
- honors thesis and scholarship or graduate school applications;
- creative writing or personal writing projects.

Each semester, the Writing Center offers focused workshops on topics such as how to write effective introductions; tips for organizing papers; and techniques for better proofreading.

The purpose of the Writing Center is to provide non-evaluative assistance for cadets who wish to become more confident, flexible, skillful writers. In accordance with the VMI Honor Code, the Institute's Work-for-Grade Policy, and the ethics of tutorial practice, the writing projects with which cadets receive assistance reflect their own work.

Therefore, tutors do not supply new ideas or phrasing, nor do they correct errors in the text. Instead, they help cadets develop the strategies and skills they need to improve their texts.

Tutors model a range of writing behaviors, from brainstorming activities that lead writers to discover viable topics to sentence-combining strategies that enable cadets to express their ideas in more complex but clear prose.

Tutors also offer support to faculty members across Post through the [Faculty Links](#) program, especially those who teach writing-intensive courses. Professional tutors work one-on-one with instructors to assist them in designing effective writing assignments, strategies for responding to student writing, and in-class writing workshops. Tutors are available by appointment or on a walk-in basis in 215 Carroll Hall.

University of Mary Washington, Fredericksburg, VA

(<http://academics.umw.edu/writing-fredericksburg/mission-statement/>):

- The University of Mary Washington's Writing Centers seek to enhance and support high quality education through engaged tutorials, workshops, and community outreach. Supporting undergraduate and graduate students in disciplinary and interdisciplinary studies as well as research, the Writing Centers offer one-on-one tutorials by professional and highly-trained tutors. The Writing Centers promote and practice integrity by adhering to and educating about the Honor Code, especially as it pertains to writing. The Writing Centers also promote life-long learning by encouraging students to apply their knowledge and broad-based educational experiences to their own writing, thus developing habits that translate into becoming better writers and academicians during and beyond life at the University of Mary Washington.
- Goals:
  - Goal One: To provide resources that enhance the writing skills of UMW students.
  - Goal Two: To provide a space and atmosphere that is conducive to student writing and development.

## 48. Washington

Gonzaga University, Spokane, WA

(<http://www.gonzaga.edu/Academics/Colleges-and-Schools/College-of-Arts-and-Sciences/Majors-Programs/English/writing-center/>):

- The Writing Center strives to serve all undergraduate student writers on the campus of Gonzaga University by providing free, non-credit learning support. Student writers of all abilities are welcome to visit the Writing Center as they produce writing for audiences in curricular, co-curricular, and pre-professional settings. The Writing Center's tutoring philosophy entails treating every student with respect and approaching each tutoring session as an opportunity for critical, rhetorically-sensitive dialogue. This dialogue usually addresses students' writing processes as well as their actual writing projects.

Saint Martin's University, Lacey, WA (<https://www.stmartin.edu/LearningCenter/>):

- The Center for Student Learning, Writing, and Advising share the University's Benedictine commitment to hospitality and welcomes all students. In the spirit of learning as a form of social justice and a right for all, we promote academic excellence through student-centered programs in a collaborative learning environment that is supported by:
  - **Faith** - Believing in the academic potential and learning strengths of all students
  - **Reason** - Encouraging personal responsibility in the pursuit of intellectual growth
  - **Service** - Providing a welcoming environment for the delivery of academic support services
  - **Community** - Building partnerships across the university to enhance student learning

## 49. West Virginia

West Virginia University, Morgantown, WV

(<http://english.wvu.edu/centers-projects/writing-center/>):

New URL (3/15/16): <http://speakwrite.wvu.edu/writing-studio/writing-studio-faq>

- **The WVU Writing Center** is a peer tutoring environment whose mission is to help students become stronger writers. Tutors can help students with writing genres such as:
  - analytical and research papers
  - lab reports
  - portfolios
  - thesis and dissertation projects
  - slide decks (e.g. Powerpoint)
  - personal statements
  - just about anything that involves writing

Our goal is to help students succeed in all of their communication endeavors.

## 50. Wisconsin

University of Wisconsin, Madison: (<http://www.writing.wisc.edu/AboutUs/mission.html>):

· The University of Wisconsin-Madison's Writing Center helps undergraduate and graduate students in all disciplines become more effective, more confident writers. We believe that writing is a powerful tool not only for communicating existing ideas but also for discovering new ones; that learning to write is a life-long process; and that all writers benefit from sharing work in progress with knowledgeable, attentive readers. Our methods—multi-faceted, flexible, and above all, collaborative—reflect our respect for the individual writer, whose talents, voice, and goals are central to all our endeavors.

Dedicated to the University's pursuit of excellence in teaching, research, and service, the Writing Center offers—

- trained, supportive instructors who work one-on-one with students at all levels and in all disciplines
- trained, supportive undergraduate peer tutors who work one-on-one with students in undergraduate writing-intensive courses across the curriculum
- an online writing center providing electronic tutoring and instructional materials
- short-term, non-credit workshops about academic writing
- reference materials about academic writing, for use by students and faculty
- convenient access to our resources through multiple locations across campus and online
- teaching support for faculty and TAs across campus
- teaching, learning, and leadership opportunities for its staff
- national leadership in writing center programs, pedagogy, administration and scholarship

## 51. Wyoming

University of Wyoming, Laramie, WY (<http://www.uwyo.edu/ctl/writing-center/>):

· What we do!

The Writing Center works with writers and instructors across UW, both on- and off-campus. Our mission is to support writers in their efforts to improve their writing skills, not simply to improve the writing. Although we do our best to accommodate walk-ins, it is always best to schedule an appointment in advance by calling 766-5250 or visiting the Writing Center located in Coe Library 302. Our hours are listed [here](#).

Laramie County Community College, Laramie, WY

(<http://www.lccc.wy.edu/academics/services/writingCenter.aspx>):

In accordance with LCCC's mission to transform student lives through the power of inspired learning, the Writing & Communications Center (WCC) guides students in becoming more autonomous writers, speakers, and thinkers. To this end, by listening, asking questions, and providing resources, our tutors empower students to evaluate and make decisions about their own work and encourage them to develop positive attitudes about their communication skills.

Our services are rooted in the belief that purpose- and process-driven, focused, well-organized and well-supported work that meets assignment requirements is most important in effective

communication. Thus, we endeavor to create better writers and speakers, not better writing and speeches.

LCCC students should contact us to schedule an appointment or ask about our drop-in hours. Appointments are highly encouraged.

You can also [request a tutor](#).

[Learn more about the WCC and our resources.](#)