**University of Arizona**  
**Writing Skills Improvement Program (WSIP)**  
**Bi-Weekly Writing Workshops, Fall 2015**

WSIP offers four series of regular, 50-minute workshops throughout the fall and spring semesters. Attendance is FREE of charge for all UA undergraduates, graduates, staff, and faculty. Workshops are interactive and activity-based. Participants are encouraged to bring samples of their own writing to practice learned skills. Register to attend at [wsip.arizona.edu/workshop-series](http://wsip.arizona.edu/workshop-series) or call (520) 621-5849 with questions.

| THE CRAFT OF WRITING: This series will get you comfortable with generating ideas without worrying about how “perfect” the first draft is and with improving these first drafts in effective ways. |
| Mondays (see schedule below), 2:00-2:50 pm, Location TBA |

September 14: *Getting Started: Brainstorming Past the Empty Page*  
This workshop will cover strategies for moving through writer’s block and getting your ideas out on paper (or on your computer screen).

September 28: *Knowing Your Audience so You Know How to Write*  
In this workshop, we will engage in activities that help you identify your target audience(s) and in writing situations so that you can choose the appropriate format, appeals, tone/voice, vocabulary, etc.

October 12: *Non-Evaluative Feedback for Peer Review*  
Non-evaluative feedback provides a great deal of useful information to the writer in an environment of positive collaboration. It is strongly suggested that you bring two or three hard copies of a piece of writing to workshop.

October 26: *Using Blogs and Online Discussion Sites for Class*  
In this workshop, we will learn about reading and evaluating blog/online discussion entries and then responding to them thoughtfully and relevantly.

November 9: *Revision: What It Really Is*  
In this workshop, we will learn about breaking revision into separate and manageable components so that all aspects of your draft are addressed in depth. It is strongly recommended that you bring one piece of writing (either digital or paper) with you so that you can apply what you learn during the workshop.

| INTRODUCTION TO SCHOLARLY WRITING: This series will introduce common elements of academic writing at the college level. We will engage in workshop activities to help strengthen writing skills in areas including analysis, development of a research process, and correct use of research material and reference styles. |
| Wednesdays (see schedule below), 2:00-2:50 pm, Location TBA |

September 16: *Analysis: What is it?*  
This workshop will introduce the difference between analysis and summary in writing and review strategies for ensuring that you are analyzing.

September 30: *The Research Process*  
We will practice writing techniques to stimulate research-oriented writing and the development of research questions.

October 14: *Plagiarism and How to Avoid It*  
In this workshop, we will learn and practice writing strategies to help you incorporate references and resources correctly and avoid plagiarism.

October 28: *Introduction to Citation Styles*  
This workshop will provide an overview of the basic guidelines for the MLA, APA, and Chicago/Turabian reference styles for academic writing.

November 25: *Writing Cover Letters and Personal Statements*  
In this workshop, we will discuss the purposes and styles for application cover letters and personal statements.

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**GRAMMAR AND STYLE:** This series will address structural issues that all writers must consider. We will review Standard American English language rules and preferences in addition to common mistakes that writers make. We will practice ways to increase sentence fluency and fluidity and build academic vocabulary. This series is appropriate for English language learners as well as all writers who are working to strengthen their writing in general.

**Mondays (see schedule below), 2:00-2:50 pm, Location TBA**

**September 21: Playing with Punctuation**
Punctuation can be tricky! In this workshop, we will review and practice basic guidelines in order to understand how our use of punctuation can control the clarity, accuracy, and overall impact of our writing.

**October 5: Recognizing Grammatical Error Patterns**
The purpose of this workshop is to refresh participants’ understanding of Standard American English grammar and its application in academic writing.

**October 19: Whittling Down Wordiness and Redundancy**
This workshop will introduce useful strategies for making writing concise and effective. We will practice reducing redundancy and wordiness.

**November 2: Fluency: Sentence Length and Variation**
In this workshop, we will learn about various sentence structures and how to use them in academic writing. We will practice writing and editing texts to hone our skills in sentence development.

**November 16: Enhancing Your Vocabulary**
In this workshop, we will discuss how to increase our academic vocabularies and practice our abilities to choose words wisely for use in scholarly sentences.

**ADVANCED AND GRADUATE SCHOLARLY WRITING:** This series will address various aspects of graduate and post-graduate level writing such as grant and research proposals, research organization and use, manuscript preparation, comprehensive exam preparation, and Curriculum Vitae creation and maintenance.

**Wednesdays (see schedule below), 2:00-2:50 pm, Location TBA**

**September 23: Writing Effective Grant and Research Proposals**
Often, our research requires outside funding as well as detailed pre-planning. This is where various kinds of proposals become essential to the research process. In this workshop, we will learn steps we can take in order to write strong, persuasive grant and research proposals.

**October 7: Annotated Bibliographies vs. Literature Reviews**
Both of these documents are important to advanced scholarly research; however, they are not the same. Here, we will learn about the forms of and uses for each document and practice techniques for becoming comfortable with writing them.

**October 21: Preparing Manuscripts for Publication**
Different publication types and formats require different editorial choices from us as scholarly writers. In this workshop, we will learn about how to figure out what is expected of us in manuscript preparation, including resources we can go to for assistance.

**November 4: Preparing for Your Comprehensive Exam/Prelims**
Some graduate degree programs require you to take intensive written and oral culminating exams before beginning the dissertation process. We will discuss various strategies for preparing for your exams, including developing reading lists, working with your advisor(s), reviewing and organizing your sources, and responding in writing to exam prompts.

**November 18: Going on the Job Market: Your Curriculum Vitae**
One of the most important documents that you will prepare as a professional scholar is your curriculum vitae. In this workshop, we will learn about starting, organizing, developing, and updating your CV.
Writing Skills Improvement Program
Fall 2015—General Information

Visit our website at wsip.arizona.edu to register for tutoring and bi-weekly workshops. Call our main office at (520) 621-5849 or 5848 for more information.

WSIP tutoring and pre-scheduled bi-weekly workshop services are available to all UA graduate and undergraduate students, employees, faculty, and visiting scholars. Free services include the following:

- Individual and Small-Group Tutoring by Appointment (all aspects of writing and research; August 24 - December 11, 2015)
- Walk-in Tutoring at UA cultural centers, Transfer Student Center, Main Library, and other centers (walk-in; no appointment necessary; September 8 – December 11, 2015)
- Bi-weekly Workshop Series (see below; begin September 14, 2015)
- Graduate Writing Institute: A three-week intensive summer writing program for graduate students (June 6 - 24, 2016)

Additional fee-for-hire services include the following:

- Custom workshops and presentations
- Editing for UA departments and off-site organizations (not available to students)

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**Contact Us**

Address:  
Writing Skills Improvement Program  
1201 E. Helen St.  
Tucson, AZ 85719  
Hours: 9:00am to 4:30pm, M-F

Phone: (520) 621-5849 or 5848  
Fax: (520) 621-2222

Email: writingskills@email.arizona.edu  
Website: wsip.arizona.edu

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