



Writing Center Workshops

Delzell Room 110

"I write to discover what I know."

– Flannery O'Connor, author



The workshops—sponsored by the USD Writing Center, the Academic and Career Planning Center, the University Libraries, the Center for Teaching and Learning, and the Departments of English, Art, Biology, Chemistry, History, and Political Science—are free and open to all USD students, staff, and faculty, no registration required. Workshops are eligible for Paw points. Most workshops are held Wed. at either 4 or 7 p.m., but one is held on a Tuesday, another on a Thursday. See details below.

Distance students, to attend live online, log into D2L and select the Online Writing Center (if you don't see the link, email wcenter@usd.edu to be added). Under Communications, select Zoom Conferencing (USD). Then, select the link for the current workshop. *All times listed are central starting time.*

Note-taking: Find the Method That Works Best for You. (Wed. Aug 25, 4-5 p.m., Delzell 110): Learn why taking good notes matters to your success in class, and experiment with various note-taking methods, applied to a fun mini-discussion of art. The presenters are Lauren Freese, Assistant Professor, Department of Art, and Michelle Rogge Gannon, Writing Center Director, Department of English.

Building a Paragraph (Wed. Sept. 1, 4-5 p.m., Delzell 110): Clear, well-developed paragraphs are essential to every successful academic essay strategies for creating effective paragraphs in this hands-on, interactive session. The workshop presenter is Kevin Magee, Instructor, Department of English.

Developing a Literacy Narrative (Tue. Aug. 31, 4-5 p.m. Delzell 110): Reflective writing, writing about ourselves and our histories, shows us who we see ourselves becoming, and what we value most. What's your relationship to the written English language? Learn tips on how to dig deep into your life experience in this workshop for developing a powerful literacy narrative. The presenter is Amelia Harrington, PhD student, Department of English.

Writing Your Scientific Research Paper (Wed. Sept. 8, 4-5 p.m. Delzell 110): This workshop offers guidelines for creating the first draft of a scientific research paper, as well as addressing revision strategies. You'll also learn what distinguishes a strong research paper from a weak one. The workshop presenter is Jeff Wesner, Associate Professor, Department of Biology.

Writing Personal Statements for Graduate and Professional School Applications (Wed. Sept. 15, 4-5 p.m., Delzell 110): What makes a successful and compelling statement of purpose? What do admissions committees look for when reviewing applications for graduate or professional schools? This workshop will provide guidelines for writing an effective personal statement, consider some examples of successful and unsuccessful statements, and explore your questions about this essential element of any application to graduate or professional school. The workshop presenter is Skip Willman, Associate Professor, Department of English.

APA Documentation (Wed. Sept. 22, 4-5 p.m. Delzell 110): This workshop introduces students to the conventions of APA style citation and documentation. Students will leave the workshop with a basic understanding of the APA style format as well as where to find additional online resources on APA. The presenter is Ken Green, Instructor, Department of English

Media Analysis (Wed. Sept. 22, 7-8 p.m., Delzell 110): Learn how to approach media and/or American pop culture using critical thinking. The emphasis will not be to criticize, but to analyze media/pop culture and the messages we see and hear. We'll also consider how we might become more thoughtful, informed consumers of these pervasive elements of our culture. The presenter is Ukamaka Olisakwe, PhD student, Department of English.

Selecting Sources for Academic Writing Assignments (Wed. Sept. 29, 4-5 p.m. Delzell 110): Do you worry about finding the right sources for your academic writing assignments? Learn useful strategies for identifying appropriate sources for academic essays and other texts (as well as your future professional writing). The presenter is Dr. Carol Leibiger, Assoc. Professor and Information Literacy Coordinator, I. D. Weeks Library.



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Writing an Effective Summary (Thur. Oct. 7, 4-5 p.m., Delzell 110): Being able to write an effective summary is essential not only in many college courses but also in future careers. In this workshop, students will study sample summaries and what makes them work, as well as drafting their own. This workshop will be useful prep for the media analysis and RBAA in ENGL 101. The presenter is Lisa Ann Robertson, Assistant Professor, Dept. of English.

MLA Documentation (Wed. Oct. 13, 4-5 p.m., Delzell 110): This workshop introduces students to the conventions of MLA style citation and documentation. The workshop covers different ways to use sources within the text of essays. Guidelines for creating a works-cited list will also be presented. The workshop is primarily for students in humanities courses. The workshop presenter is Jeremiah Davis, PhD student, Department of English.

Integrating Sources and Avoiding Plagiarism (Wed. Oct. 20, 4-5 p.m. Delzell 110): You know that you're not supposed to drop quotations into your text without using signal phrases, right? You know that you should cite the source, whether you're quoting, paraphrasing, or summarizing, right? Whether you're new to this concept or need to learn strategies for doing it more smoothly, this hands-on workshop provides guidance for integrating sources into your sentences. The workshop presenter is Benjamin Hagen, Assistant Professor, Department of English.

Revision Strategies: From Thesis Statements to "Flowing" Prose (Wed. Oct. 27, 4-5 p.m. Delzell 110): This hands-on workshop will guide you through several strategies for effectively (and efficiently!) revising your academic writing. If you struggle with thesis statements, organization (including introductions and conclusions), and/or creating "flow" in your writing, then this workshop is for you. Students from all academic fields are encouraged to attend. The presenter is Prentiss Clark, Assistant Professor, Dept. of English.

Writing a Literature Review (Wed., Nov. 3, 7-8:30 p.m. Delzell 110): Knowing how to develop an effective literature review is critical if you're writing a thesis, dissertation, scholarly article, or grant/research proposal. It is also helpful for research papers and experiment/lab reports. Literature reviews are essential to scholarship in the sciences, the social sciences, and the humanities. In this 90-minute workshop, students will examine sample literature reviews and learn from a faculty panel about, for example, how the literature review varies from one discipline to the next and how to tailor the literature review to the purpose. The presenters: Molly Rozum, Assoc. Professor, Dept. of History; James Hoefelmeyer, Professor, Dept. of Chemistry; and Shane Nordyke, Assoc. Professor, Dept. of Political Science.

How to Write an Academic Introduction (Wed. Nov. 10, 7-8 p.m., Delzell 110): Struggle with writing introductions? Want to wow your readers with organized and logically compelling opening paragraphs? This workshop will introduce participants to two introduction formats for academic prose: the Problem Statement and the Creating a Research Space (C.A.R.S.) model. The workshop presenter is Chris Adamson, Education Technology Integrationist, the Center for Teaching and Learning.

How to Write a Portfolio Introduction (Wed. Nov. 17, 4-5 p.m. Delzell 110): Portfolio-based classes, including English 101, challenge students to compose a compelling introduction for the portfolio. This interactive workshop will guide students through the process and pitfalls of writing an introduction worthy of preceding a fantastic portfolio. The presenter is Jordan Biggerstaff, M.A. student, Dept. of English.

Write-In! (Wed., Dec. 1, 7-11 p.m. Delzell 110): Are you working on an essay, a report, a portfolio, or another kind of writing project? Get helpful feedback from a writing consultant. You can also write and revise on your own at a nearby table. We will have free beverages and snacks! Drop in anytime from 7 to 11 p.m., Delzell 110.

Do you need individualized help with your writing? Come to the Writing Center! We can help you with all of your writing assignments, from start to finish.

For more information, contact the Writing Center. You can reach us by phone at 605-677-5626, by email at wcenter@usd.edu, or in person in room 133 in the Academic Commons, I.D. Weeks Library. You can also visit us online at <http://www.usd.edu/writingcenter>.



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