



310 Philosophy Hall

Sept 9 - Dec 17
M-Th: 9am - 8pm
F: 9am - 5pm
Su: 12pm - 8pm

writingcenter@columbia.edu
212-854-3886

bit.ly/columbiawritingcenter

Sessions held online and in-person.

Who can visit the Writing Center?

Undergraduate and graduate students enrolled in Columbia courses may visit at no charge. Exceptions are Barnard, Teachers College, and Social Work students, who must use the writing centers in their home programs unless they are writing for classes in colleges that we serve.

What does the Writing Center offer?

Writing consultations: 45-minute, one-on-one sessions with a writing consultant to discuss your writing project.

Writing productivity sessions: 2-hour sessions in which writers can work on their projects with support and accountability.

Repeating appointments: We offer a limited number of *6-week repeating appointments* to international students, first-generation college students, and students referred by the Office of Disability Services, as well as thesis and dissertation writers. Those writers should visit us in the first weeks of the term to request a repeating appointment.

Workshops: We offer a variety of workshops designed to help you in your writing process. Check our website for descriptions and updates.

Why should I visit?

To grow as a reader, writer, and thinker. We attend to both the short-term goal of improved papers and the long-term goal of improved writing, critical thinking, and reading. Your session is an opportunity to have an in-depth discussion about your work with a helpful, expert reader.

What happens in a consultation?

The consultant typically begins by asking “What are you working on?” “Where are you in the project?” and “What would you like to focus on today?” Together, you’ll read the assignment and whatever writing you bring in. Then you’ll discuss your areas of concern and develop strategies that will work best for you.

What kind of writing can I bring in?

Any kind. You’re welcome to bring in any academic or non-academic writing project.

What can you help me with?

You name it. We can help you develop and structure your thoughts, find and employ research, connect ideas, sustain a reader’s attention, understand a genre’s conventions, cite sources, polish prose, and improve your understanding of grammar and mechanics.

What doesn’t happen?

Quick fixes. Instead, we focus on long-term improvement. Thus, we leave proofreading up to you (though we’re happy to teach you the skills to proofread your own work). And because grades are between you and your professor, we don’t discuss them.

How much can I cover in a session?

Expect to focus on 2 or 3 areas of concern during one visit. Our goal is not to show you how to perfect your project but how to help it progress to the next step. We find that writers are most effective when they tackle just a few issues in one draft.

Should I wait to come in until I have a polished draft?

Nope. Come in at any stage of the writing process—even before you start writing. We’re happy to look at notes, outlines, or early drafts. Often our feedback can be most helpful in a project’s early stages.

Who are the consultants?

We are professional writing teachers, and graduate and undergraduate students who care about writers. You can view our bios on our website.

Is my visit confidential?

Your consultation stays confidential unless you ask us to notify your instructor.

How can I schedule a consultation?

To make an appointment and view drop-in hours, go to bit.ly/columbiawritingcenter

Shed **light** on your writing.

Columbia Writing Center

A component of the Undergraduate Writing Program

First thoughts

to final drafts,

first year

to dissertation

