

Dr. Damien Schlarb (Obama Institute)

Academic Writing Workshop (A&B)

Maximum number of participants: 15-20

Description:

This workshop addresses academic writing as a **process**: we discuss how to **write to connect** to others, how to attend to **generic and disciplinary conventions**, and how to **give, receive** and **implement feedback**. All students and university affiliates are welcome, regardless of their disciplinary background. However, please note that we will address writing from a **humanities'** perspective, focusing on forms such as **abstracts, personal statements**, and **argumentative research essays**. The workshop will be held in English. Please **bring your current writing projects**.

Structure:

First, we discuss globally the conventions and strategies associated with academic writing. We talk about managing time, generating valid research questions, formulating thesis statements, performing research, analyzing text (detecting overt/covert meanings, explicating, historicizing), composing prose (rhetoric, logic, avoiding verbal fallacies), positioning your argument in relation to that of others, receiving feedback, and the painful task of revising your own writing.

In phase two, we break into groups and begin implementing practically some of these strategies. Using our own work, we will see which of the previously discussed strategies work and which tactics to apply when live happens and these strategies fail. In this phase, we talk about how to give and receive useful feedback, and how to write to connect to an audience.

Participants may consult the following materials in preparation of or following their attendance of the workshop:

GRAMMAR

**Cook, Claire Kehrwald. *Line by Line*. Houghton Mifflin, 1985. Print. (A detailed and engaging guide to the most important aspects of grammar)

Liles, Bruce L. *A Basic Grammar of Modern English*. Englewood Cliffs: Prentice-Hall, 1979. Print. (A straightforward traditional grammar)

Morenberg, Max. *Doing Grammar*. 3rd ed. Oxford: Oxford UP, 2001. Print. (An introduction to modern descriptive grammar)

**Vitto, Cindy L. *Grammar by Diagram*. 2nd ed. Broadview, 2006. Print. (A concise handbook of everything you always wanted to know about grammar)

STYLE AND LANGUAGE

**Graff, Gerald, and Cathy Birkenstein. *They Say, I Say: The Moves that Matter in Academic Writing*. 2nd ed. New York: Norton, 2010. Print. (teaches the rhetoric structure of academic argument with gap texts)

Lunsford, Andrea A. *The Everyday Writer*. Boston: Bedford Books, 2012. (a handbook for writers w. quick reference guides)

**Strunk, William Jr., and E.D. White. *The Elements of Style*. 4th ed. New York: Alyn & Bacon, 1999. Print. (A style guide, but it also gives grammar advice)

ANALYSIS AND LITERARY CRITICISM & PROJECT PLANNING

Barry, Peter. *Beginning Theory: An Introduction to Literary and Cultural Theory*. 4 Rev ed. Manchester: Beginnings, 2017. Print.

**Kusch, Celena. *Literary Analysis: The Basics*. Milton Park: Taylor & Francis, 2016. Print.

** Turabian, Kate L. *A Manual for Writers of Research Papers, Theses, and Dissertations: Chicago Style for Students and Researchers*. 7th ed. U of Chicago P, 2007. Print.

**Tyson, Lois. *Critical Theory Today: A User-Friendly Guide*. 3rd Ed. New York: Routledge, 2006. Print.

ONLINE RESOURCES

www.netlibrary.com (a quick link to most research vendors and providers of academic journals online. you have to access this site on campus to conduct a search)

OWL Purdue University. https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/747/01/?_ga=2.19623804.558179429.1522454400-1709346682.1522454400

**=highly recommended