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)
**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

ANALYSIS AND LITERARY CRITICISM & PROJECT PLANNING

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