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The Writing Center

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The Writing Center

Helpful tips:

In class

- Read the assignment. If you don't read the assignment beforehand you may be lost in what the teacher is trying to ask. Not only will you know what topic your teacher is asking you have the

opportunity to clarify any questions that come across after reading the assignment.

- Ask how it will be graded. If you know how the paper will be graded you know which areas of writing the professor will look at more.

At home

- Look for the key words. If you decide to reread the assignment, look for main points or key words that would help you determine what you need to include in your paper.
- Consider your audience. Think about who you are writing to in your paper. Is it your peer or just your professor?
- Decide what kind of research needs to be done. If you have a research paper, what type of information do you need to include in your paper.
- Determine the formatting of the assignment. What type of paper are you writing? Determine what kind of paper you are writing. Once you know, decide how you should construct your paper.

Hours

Monday-Thursday

9am-5pm in the APSC room 301

Friday

9am-3pm

Night hours

Sunday-Thursday

7pm-10pm in the Hamersly Library

Where is it located?

In the APSC building in room 301

What is the Writing Center?

An academic support unit that specifically helps students with writing and their writing assignments.

How to make an appointment at the Writing Center

- Go to the Western Oregon website
- Then click on the student life tab
- Scroll down until you see Academic Support Services and click on the writing center
- On the left side there should be a tab that says "Make an appointment", Click on that and follow the directions if you're a first time user.
- Once you make your account you should pop up to a writing center calendar with people who work there and their schedule. All of the white boxes mean open appointment times.
- Click on a day and time which you would like to see someone in the writing center.
- Enter the information needed to make this appointment and then click save appointment on the bottom.
- CONGRATS! You made your first writing center appointment.

What can the Writing Center help you with?

- Help you when you stuck
- Help revise your paper
- Read through your paper to see if it follows the topic
- Aid you in adding information to your paper that you left out

How to get started when you're stuck

- Brain storm: think of ideas that go along with the prompt/topic you professor has given you. Brain storm ideas that come from this idea and choose which one best fits the topic.
- Free write: when you have nothing come to mind free write to explore the ideas for this topic.
- Clustering: put idea groups of the topic. Think of groups of topics that are similar together and decide which group is helpful for you.
- List making: make a list of ideas that come from the topic which you were given. This may also help you with supporting details or facts for the topic.

By: Joann &
Sami

Personal experiences of Joann and Sami

Joann:

"Writing for me can be quite difficult, especially when the topic is very broad. In high school, there was no tutoring for anything. If you needed help then you had to ask your teacher. I love knowing the fact that I can ask for help on my paper and get some actual feedback from it. I believe that this program is so helpful and students should use it"

Sami:

"Before entering college I believed that I could write an essay with my hands tied behind my back. After a few failed papers at the college level I discovered that I struggle with tying my ideas together and creating a strong thesis. The writing center helped me with all of that and more. It's amazing resource to help get students through college."

Writing statistics

- 4/5 students are not proficient writers
- Even though spell check and thesaurus, 27% of students are able to write a well developed essays with proper language use.
- 26.2% of college graduates produce deficient rated writing.
- 17% of college freshman require remedial writing class.

Take home message

The writing center is a great resource for students at WOU. It gives the students the opportunity to obtain help with their papers. It's a great resource because it has many people who are specialized for this type of material. If you need help, come to the writing center for all your writing needs.