



Writing Center Workshops—Fall 2009 Room 808A—unless noted otherwise

Friday, September 11 Demystifying Punctuation (Lindsay Donigan) **10 am-12 pm**

Do you know where commas should go in a sentence? What is the difference between a colon and a semi-colon? These and many other questions concerning punctuation will be answered in this workshop. **Most appropriate for ESL 185 and English 60 and above.**

Thursday, September 17 MLA Documentation and New 2009 Changes **10 am-12 pm (Darren Chiang-Schultheiss)**

What is MLA format? What is the Works Cited page, and what should be included on it? When is it appropriate to document a source? This workshop will answer these questions and help you correctly cite and document research papers. **Most appropriate for ESL 186 and English 60 and above.**

Monday, September 21 Sentence Boundaries (Heidi Guss) **2-4 pm**

What is a sentence? When does a sentence run-on? When is it a fragment? What is a comma splice? If you have trouble knowing what is or is not a sentence, and if you need help fixing such common errors as fused sentences, comma splices, and fragments, then this workshop is the quick fix you need.

Friday, September 25 Pumping Up Your Essay: Essay Development (Sandra Rohr) **10 am-12 pm**

So have you ever sat down in front of a blank computer screen to write an essay, and an hour later, you're still staring at a blank screen? Or have you ever been assigned to write a 4-6 page essay, but when you have written 2 pages, you are all out of ideas? Or has your instructor ever written on your essay, "Needs more development"? In this workshop, we are going to discuss essay development and how you can make your essays full and complete. This will not be a magic wand that will automatically make your essay spring to life—in less than an hour. Rather, we will discuss a method that will help you create a solid, well-developed essay.

Tuesday, September 29 Thesis Statements (Nadine Arndt) **2-4 pm**

What constitutes a clear, specific thesis? How does a thesis differ from a statement of fact? Where should a thesis appear in an essay? This workshop will give you tips on how to use critical thinking to devise an effective thesis.

Monday, October 5 Spicing Up and Trimming Down Sentences (Jennifer Givhan) **2-4 pm**

Has an instructor ever told you that your writing is "choppy"? Do you want to know how to add more variety to your sentence structure? This workshop will show you how to transition logically between sentences by teaching you how to establish relationships between the ideas in your sentences using subordinating and coordinating conjunctions. Remember, writing clear paragraphs and essays begins with writing clear sentences, so come learn how to express your ideas clearly at the sentence level!

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Tuesday, October 6 Sentence Combining (Arthur Hui)

1-3 pm

How can you write sentences that are more sophisticated? How can the appropriate use of the comma help you to accomplish this sophistication? This workshop will introduce you to a variety of sentence structures to make your writing more interesting and readable. **Most appropriate for all levels of Composition and ESL.**

Wednesday, October 7 Easily Confused Words/ESL (Kathi Johnson)

5-7 pm

Are you confused about when to use advice vs. advise or bored vs. boring? This workshop will help you distinguish between pairs of words that are different in spelling, word form, grammar, pronunciation, or accent. Opportunities for practice will be provided. **Most appropriate for all ESL courses.**

Thursday, October 22 Transfer Letters (Miguel Powers)

1-3 pm

How do you compose an effective letter or personal statement for transferring to a university or applying for a scholarship? What information should be included? What tone should you use? How long does a statement have to be? These questions and more will be answered in this workshop. Bring to the workshop a draft of your personal statement and transfer letter. **Most appropriate for students planning to transfer this year.**

Friday, October 23 Verb Tense Review—ESL (Joyce Cain)

12-2 pm

Are you confused about English verb tenses or need a quick review? If so, this workshop is for you! It will include an overview of verb tenses (including modals), how to correct verb form errors, many exercises, and handouts. **Most appropriate for all levels of ESL and English 39.**

Tuesday, October 27 Writing In-Class Essays (Rosalinda Ruiz)

3-5 pm

How should a student cope with the stress of an in-class essay or essay exam? What are some strategies for generating ideas and getting them organized? How can students manage their time effectively? These and other related questions will be answered in this workshop.

Monday, November 2 Learn How to Use Inspiration Software (Patricia Thomas)

3-5 pm (Room 801C)

Do you have trouble brainstorming ideas and organizing your essays? Come learn how to use *Inspiration 8* - an exciting software program that will help you brainstorm, plan, organize, outline, and write a paper for any subject. This is a hands-on workshop, so all students need to bring their campus username and password. This program is available for your use in the Writing Center and other computer labs on campus.

Tuesday, November 3 Noodle Tools Workshop (Bob Lundergan)

2-4 pm (Room 801C)

Do you need help with researching your paper and preparing a Works Cited page? Come learn how to use Noodle Tools-an innovative software program designed to help with researching any topic, as well as recording, organizing, and synthesizing information. Time will also be spent on formatting your sources into MLA format. This is a hands-on workshop, so all students need to bring their campus username and password.

Thursday, November 5 Writing Detailed Body Paragraphs (Jeanne Costello)

3-5 pm

Do your teachers ever tell you to “add more details to your writing?” Have you ever wondered how to make your paragraphs more lively and specific? This workshop will help you develop the body of your essay so that you’ll start getting comments like: “great details” or “interesting examples.” You’ll have fun writing your essays and your audience will enjoy reading them. **Appropriate for all levels of Composition.**