The URI Undergraduate Writing Center

All writers, all disciplines, all stages of the writing process.
Visit Us!

- In-person: Roosevelt Hall 009
- Online: https://uri.mywconline.com/
- Part of the Academic Enhancement
- Center (AEC) https://web.uri.edu/aec/
All Stages of the Writing Process

Peer writing consultants are trained to guide students through any stage of writing, including:

- Getting started and brainstorming ideas
- Identifying audience and purpose
- Strengthening a thesis
- Outlining and organizing a cohesive argument
- Revising for clarity
- Developing strategies for addressing patterns of error
"What are you working on today?"

- Reflective Curiosity Paper
- Application for teaching fellowship
- PSC 377 Policy Brief
- Lab report
- Micro Economics End of Semester Assignment
- Research Report
- MBA Personal Statement
- A song analysis
- Chapter Summary Essay
- URI Writing Award Context Statement
- 3-5 page qualitative data paper reflection/connecting to reading
- Cover Letter for Internship at URI Science Labs
- Active Reading paper
- Career Fair Follow up Email
- Discussion Post Assignment
- short story
- URI dietetic internship statement
- Ethics Essay (Ethical Vision Essay)
- Biography essay
- Educational autobiography

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Consultation Formats

All consultation formats can be scheduled online: URI.mywconline.com.

1. Asynchronous next-day written feedback
2. Synchronous online appts. via WC Online
3. In-person appts. in Roosevelt 009

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What does a writing consultation look like?

1. Greetings/introduction:
   - What are you working on?
   - Where are you in the writing process?
   - How do you feel about what you have so far?

2. Session agenda/goals:
   - What are your primary concerns?
   - What can we accomplish in the time we have available?

3. Active engagement:
   - Read draft-in-progress aloud together.
   - Does the writing address the assignment prompt? (Audience, purpose, genre, format, etc.).
   - What is missing? What is unclear?

4. Summary and action items:
   - What were we able to accomplish?
   - What are your next steps? Would you like to make a follow-up appointment?
   - Questions? Professor verification?

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As I grappled with the language in Malone's review of 'The Solitary Twin', I couldn't help but recall Amy Tan's 'Mother Tongue', an article that I had read in high school. She describes the shame that she felt towards her mother's English. Her shame dissolves as she recognizes the familiarity and intimacy of way she and her mom communicate. As she wrote 'The Joy Luck Club', she began to envision her mom as the sole audience and is triumphant when her mom expresses how easy the book was to read. When did simple and precise language become synonymous with meaningless? The hefty language in Malone's review also posed another issue with what we view at literary canon as he discusses the list of works that Harry Mathews' novel mirrors which lack diversity.

What does an online consultation look like?
Dear [Writer],

Thank you for submitting your work to the University of Rhode Island Undergraduate Writing Center. My name is Michaela and I had the opportunity to look over your assignment today.

In your appointment request, you asked that I look over the appropriateness of your context statement, as well as the organization and completeness of your ideas.

Overall, I thought that your paper was very thorough and clear about your research and proposal for a solution. I also thought that your context statement was appropriate and gave me, a reader who is unfamiliar with the topic, a very detailed introduction to the subject that your paper covers. Lastly, I think the organization of your paper is logical and easy to follow. The headers for each section of the paper make it clear to the reader that the topic is switching focus while each paragraph within the section flows smoothly from the one before it.

My first suggestion for revision would be to add a header at the beginning of the conclusion paragraphs. Including this would help the structure of the paper follow that of the sections before it and will help signify more clearly to the reader where the conclusion paragraphs are.

A second suggestion for revision is to possibly emphasize the meaning of your research ...
How to Make the Most Out of A Visit:

• Review your written work and assignment instructions before the appointment. Bring the prompt and your questions with you to the appointment.

• Identify a goal for the session: What are you most confused or unsure about? What would you like feedback on?

• Online appointments: practice logging into WCOnline before session.

• Have a growth mindset! Remember that writing is a process.
Helpful Resources:

• Purdue University’s Online Writing Lab (OWL): https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/purdue_owl.html
  – Writing process
  – Research and citation resources
  – Avoiding plagiarism
  – Subject-specific writing
  – Mechanics, grammar, punctuation

• URI Undergraduate Writing Center
  – information: https://web.uri.edu/aec/writing/
  – scheduling: https://uri.mywconline.com/