

# GUIDE TO THE WRITING CENTER

### ALL WRITERS



### ♦ ALL DISCIPLINES



# ♦ ALL STAGES OF WRITING

## • Help students get started! They can help break an assignment up into manageable parts to reduce overwhelm.

- Offer helpful feedback so writers can gain perspective on how their writing is coming across to a reader, then use the information to make deliberate choices as a writer.
- Support peers in any type of writing, including personal statements for graduate school, scholarships, or other applications.
- Work with students to identify audience & purpose, brainstorm ideas, outline & organize thoughts, and develop a thesis.
- Share resources and strategies for revising and polishing. They will point out unclear language, inconsistent arguments, and recurring errors.

# Peer Consultants WILL NOT:

- Be experts in every content area; they are there to offer helpful feedback as readers, not tutor the material.
- Tell students what to write.
- Proofread or line-edit student work.
- Assume professor expectations. They will not "grade" or assess student work, or "interpret" feedback on behalf of professors.
- Provide professor verification to students who do not bring something to work on or actively engage during the session.

# How Students Can Get the Most Out of Their Consultation:

- Visit early in the process, even if you don't have anything written! If you are just getting started, make an in-person or online appointment so you can talk through the assignment and brainstorm ideas with a consultant.
- Set 2-3 goals you would like to accomplish during your 25- or 50-minute session. If you need more time, you can make additional appointments at different stages.
- Bring the assignment prompt, syllabus, notes from class, and any specific feedback from past assignments that could help identify what your instructor is looking for.
- Schedule in advance to ensure availability!







