

Advance Writing Workshop with Writing Coach Lisa Tener

June 28, 2005

Evaluation Survey Results

(Number of Individuals Listing a Specific Comment Given in Parentheses)

1. What did you hope to get out of this workshop?

- Organization; how to structure a paper and organize flow of ideas; how to organize my thoughts before writing (7)
- Jump start; motivation; inspiration to get started (4)
- Time management; structure time (3)
- Tips for writing; thesis writing (3)
- Collaborative focus on writing; time to work with group on a publication; (3)
- Devote exclusive time for writing/effective writing (2)
- Time for planning; plan to get our first article with Advance team done (2)
- Tips for publishing; gain knowledge to facilitate publication writing (2)
- Energetic focus (1)
- Motivation for preparing writings for publication. (1)
- connection to advance team (1)
- Not have to do by myself (1)
- Help with perfectionism(1)
- Help with limitations (1)
- Knowledge/guidance on better ways to write and incorporate writing in my life.
- How to become involved in writing (1)

2. Did it meet your expectations? In what ways did it / didn't it?

- Yes: (11)
- Somewhat; did a little; yes and no (3)
- Definitely (1)
- It provided a great balance of instruction, facilitation and writing time. It honored the writing process and helped us see how we need to do this more frequently.
- Lots of energy with group and motivation to produce papers and collaborate.
- In addition we created a structure (ongoing writing workshops) to keep progress going.
- It was definitely a nice workshop covering all aspects of effective writing.
- Heard a lot of input from others.
- I felt supported I also felt this time gave me the inspiration to get started and not feeling scared.
- Great info came out from various perspectives.
- (from the "yes and no" person: it could be more tailored to psy journal article writing)
- Didn't actually write, but got organized; didn't make best use of facilitation re: actual writing.
- Accomplished 1.
- It contained good pointers with regards to organization and putting oneself in the proper frame of mind, but it did not provide structural guidance.
- Got to know how to motivate ourselves to start writing and create a good environment.

3. *What did you like best about the workshop?*

- The exchange of ideas / group involvement / variety of people & audience / chance to interact; Sharing of ideas across disciplines / hearing others' issues (7)
- Opportunities to write with others/ Writing time – collaboration (2)
- Talking frankly about writing roles, ownership of ideas and authorship. Also sharing of techniques and frustrations; addressed everyday frustrations about writing (2)
- The five steps for writing with ease; tips for clearing the deck (2)
- Hearing solutions offered by others plagued by the same issues and realizing that there are others who struggle with the same issues.
- Response to specific questions and concerns of individuals.
- Time to plan (1)
- Tips for getting organized (1)
- Attention to specific writing concerns, tips, positive focus on others' input
- Handouts
- Testimonials (1)
- Not very formal (1)

4. *What changes would you advise making to the workshop?*

- A future workshop could ask participants to e-mail an outline of ideas and goals ahead of time.
- I didn't like the division between grad students and faculty – maybe more time for the “how to's” of writing (getting over writers block).
- More specific info on creating outline for getting started.
- Fewer people. Better physical environment for writing (more tables, electrical outlets, more room).
- Force more interaction; mix groups.
- Maybe give an example of a paper and make some critiques on the paper.
- I think it is great the way it is now.
- More info on your business/service for beyond this workshop.
- Maybe a little more time on the “five steps.”
- Maybe ask for sample of what style of writing we are interested in first.
- Thought at first we were at too much of different levels of expertise but it didn't matter.
- I would appreciate more concrete advice with regards to structure, writing process.
- Ask individuals to write on the topic given by you during workshop and correct it and give the feedback.
- Nothing.

5. *Would you recommend the workshop to others?*

- Yes (12)
- Definitely (2)
- Am taking ideas back to work for others (1)
- Not sure (1)

6. *What kinds of things would you say to someone considering taking the workshop?*

- Think about a writing project you'd like to address.
- Very manageable (time wise) and effective workshop – great motivator for projects.
- Bring your work.
- Come with a goal.
- Prepare well so that one can get more from the resource available for the short time.
- It is a good idea.
- How helpful it was and how much I got out of it.
- It is a good starting spot in the writing process.
- It is very motivating and lets you know you can get a publication out from start to finish.
- Best to have paper in mind.
- Will help you focus.
- If they seek to improve grammar, writing style, etc. don't bother. If they suffer from writer's block, lack of organization, frustration, etc. then go.
- Training and motivation.

- *Be open with your writing frustration*

7. *What did you learn in this workshop?*

- Time management; time lines; importance of carving time up into concrete blocks (4)
- The importance of setting expectations with collaborations; collaboration work (2)
- Got “Re-motivated” / inspired; how to motivate (2)
- Relax and focus on what’s important; tips for taking a productive attitude towards writing (2)
- How to negotiate challenges in writing (1)
- Tips on getting organized (1)
- Tips on clearing the deck (1)
- Perfectionism (1)
- Focus (1)
- Everyone has trouble finding time. You don’t have to be an expert on everything to write a paper (1)
- Everyone faces the same overwhelming problems while writing—I’m not alone. (1)
- Effective writing (1)
- Most important lesson: I am good enough. (1)
- Specific steps to make writing a priority and productive (1)
- Tips on working effectively (1)

8. *Your Name (optional)*

- Didn’t list these—Not everyone responded.

9. *Please write any additional comments on the back. Thank you!*

- Thank you so much for an instructional, effective and energizing workshop. You have galvanized a good sized group to value, work on and complete writing projects.
- Lisa T. was very accessible.
- Thank you Lisa, this was great.
- Workshops like this will help students if you could train them to write thesis projects.
- Explain with examples of good write up.
- Great workshop!