

The Haverford Writing Center

The Writing Center fosters a culture of vibrant intellectual exchange by helping students to develop clear and persuasive written, spoken, and visual arguments. Our staff meets one-on-one with students and leads workshops throughout the year on academic writing, oral presentation, senior thesis development, and other topics. We work with students at all levels—from first-year students to senior thesis writers—and in any discipline, including the natural sciences and some foreign languages and literatures. Tutors help students to craft written assignments, oral presentations, research posters, PowerPoint presentations, lab reports, and essays for fellowship, internship, and grad school applications. We will work with students at any stage of the writing process, from brainstorming about a topic to polishing a final draft. We are a resource for all Haverford students, including those who struggle with writing and those who excel at it. We believe that every writer needs good readers and that sharing work-in-progress with peers should be a part of every Haverford student's writing process.

Website

Our website includes an appointment schedule, profiles of our tutors, and many resources for students and faculty. We encourage you to explore the handouts and links on our website, to use them in your classroom, and to refer students to these resources for questions ranging from how to frame an argument to how to cite sources. Students can make appointments via a link to the online schedule on our home page: www.haverford.edu/writing-center/

Writing Partnership Program

The Writing Center sponsors a Writing Partnership program designed for students who want to meet weekly with the same tutor for a semester or a year. Students who participate in this program include English language learners, students making a transition to college writing or to writing in a new discipline, and senior thesis writers. If you feel that one of your students would benefit from working with a Writing Partner, please suggest that the student email Kristin Lindgren at klindgre@haverford.edu to request one. The program is limited, and most spots are full about six weeks into the semester.

Speaking Initiative

The Writing Center, in conjunction with the [OAR](#) and [CCPA](#), supports the development of oral communication skills across all four years of a Haverford education. We will work with students on speaking skills ranging from participating effectively in a class discussion to preparing a senior thesis presentation. We offer individual and group appointments in the Writing Center and we bring speakers to campus to offer workshops and talks.

Senior Thesis Support

We encourage seniors to use the Writing Center at all stages of developing a thesis project. We are also happy to develop a workshop for a senior seminar or a group of students in a particular discipline.

What you can do to partner with the Writing Center

- Introduce your students to Writing Center resources or invite a peer tutor to speak to your class for ten minutes about the Writing Center.
- Consider incorporating a required visit to the Writing Center into one of your assignments.
- Encourage your students to use peer tutors and other peer readers as a regular part of their writing process.
- Remind your students that peer tutors can be most helpful when the student comes with a copy of the assignment, notes toward a draft or a draft-in-progress, and, if the instructor has already commented on a draft, a copy of those comments.
- Be aware that Writing Center tutors are not editors or proofreaders. Their primary role is to facilitate a conversation about the project at hand and to work with the student writer to frame or develop an argument, use evidence persuasively, improve style, and so forth. Tutors will help student writers develop strategies for editing and proofreading.
- Let us know if you have ideas for workshops or other programming.

Staff

- Kristin Lindgren, Director, oversees all Writing Center programs
- Barbara Hall, Faculty Tutor, meets with students at all levels and specializes in working with developmental and multilingual writers.
- Susannah Bien-Gund, Faculty Tutor, meets with students at all levels and specializes in working with multilingual writers
- Nimisha Ladva, Speaking Consultant, offers workshops and is available to meet with your class to help students prepare for oral presentations
- Peer tutors: Approximately twenty-five Haverford students each semester, majoring in a wide range of disciplines in the humanities, social sciences, and natural sciences.

Hours

We have 70-80 hours of appointment time available each week. In addition to daytime hours, we are open 8-11 PM Sunday through Thursday. We open two weeks into the semester and remain open through reading period and exams. Students can make appointments on our online schedule via the Writing Center website.

Locations

- Lutnick Library
- Stokes 118 I, in the Office of Academic Resources Suite
- Sharpless 213, off Zubrow Commons in the KINSC