

THE WRITING LAB

The Writing Lab is a combination of drop-in sessions and workshops designed specifically for undergraduates who wish to learn more about the essay-writing process and improve their essay-writing. Workshops will focus on specific aspects of essay writing, such as how to construct a logical argument, how to use quotations effectively, how to improve your punctuation, etc. The format for the workshops will usually be an introductory talk by the tutor, followed by practical exercises and group discussion at the end. Students are invited to use the drop-in sessions to raise any questions, issues or concerns they have about essay writing, either for assessed coursework or end-of-semester exams. The Writing Lab is primarily aimed at first- and second-year students of English.

You will need to e-mail the Writing Lab tutor, Mary-Beth Brophy on mb427 if you intend to come to a particular workshop. This will allow her to gauge the number of handouts required. Feel free to e-mail with any questions about the Writing Lab itself. But remember, the tutor **cannot** answer questions about writing, essays, exams etc. via e-mail.

All workshops will take place at 1pm on Thursdays in the Garden Seminar Room, Kennedy Hall. Drop-in sessions take place at 1pm on Thursdays in the Garden Seminar Room.

Timetable for the Writing Lab in Semester 2, 2009-2010

Date	Session
Week 4 (4 March)	Workshop: What Works? (Look at sample essays and gain a better understanding of what tutors are looking for.)
Week 5 (11 March)	Workshop: Planning Essays and Identifying Arguments (Understand the writing process, research, organize your ideas)
Week 6 (18 March)	Workshop: Close Reading. (Practise close reading and understand what it means.)
Week 7 (25 March)	Workshop: Style, Structure & Punctuation (Write more efficiently and effectively. Avoid basic errors of punctuation and grammar.)
SPRING VACATION	
Week 8 (15 April)	Drop-in Session

- Week 9** (22 April) **Workshop: Using Quotations & Secondary Sources**
(Use sources more productively)
- Week 10** (29 April) **Bookable Drop-in Session**
(Bring an essay to discuss)
- Week 11** (6 May) **Workshop: Revision & Exam Essays**
(How to revise for the exam and write an effective exam essay.)
- Week 12** (13 May) **Drop-in Session.**