

## 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, Claire Pascolini-Campbell on [cp453@st-andrews.ac.uk](mailto:cp453@st-andrews.ac.uk) 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 and drop-in sessions will take place at 1pm on Fridays in the Garden Seminar Room, Kennedy Hall.

Timetable for the Writing Lab in Semester 1, 2011-2012

<b>Date</b>	<b>Session</b>
<b>Week 3</b> (14 October)	<b>Workshop: Close Reading</b> (Practise close reading and understand what it means).
<b>Week 4</b> (21 October)	<b>Workshop: Planning Essays and Identifying Arguments</b> (Understand the writing process, research, organize your ideas)
<b>Week 5</b> (28 October)	<b>Workshop: Style, Structure &amp; Punctuation</b> (Write more efficiently and effectively. Avoid basic errors of punctuation and grammar.)
<b>Week 6</b> (4 November)	<b>Workshop: The Essay</b> (This workshop will bring together all aspects discussed so far, providing students with the opportunity to critique sample essays)
<b>Week 7</b> (11 November)	<b>READING WEEK</b>
<b>Week 8</b> (18 November)	<b>Workshop: Finding Secondary Sources</b> (Look at available library and research tools and evaluate the value and relevance of these texts)

- Week 9** (25 November)    **Workshop: Using Quotations & Secondary Sources**  
(Students will practice identifying key theme in secondary sources, select applicable quotations to include in an essay)
- Week 10** (2 December)    **Drop-in Session**  
(Students are welcome to email the tutor before 5 pm on Thursday night before the lab with any specific questions they may have about writing, researching, or their current essays; students may also attend unannounced with additional queries should they so desire)
- Week 11** (9 December)    **Workshop: Revision & Exam Essays**  
(How to revise for the exam and write an effective exam essay)
- Week 12** (16 December)    **Drop-in Session**