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 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 tutor will not, however, look at essay drafts in advance of essay submission.

Feel free to e-mail the Writing Lab tutor, Ms Meghan Healy (mh627@st-andrews.ac.uk) with any questions about the Writing Lab itself. Please remember the tutor cannot answer questions about writing, essays, exams etc. via e-mail.

Unless otherwise noted below, all workshops and drop-in sessions will take place at 1-2 pm on Fridays in the Garden Seminar Room, Kennedy Hall.

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<th>Date</th>
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| Week 2 (23 Sept) | Getting Started and Finding an Argument  
Writer’s block? Learn how to come up with ideas for your essay and develop your ideas into an argument. |
| Week 3 (29 Sept) | Special Drop-in Session for Evening Degree Students  
This session will be held on Thursday 29 September, 5pm-6pm in the Arts Building, seminar room 4. It is open to all students but will be particularly aimed at students taking the evening degree modules. |
| Week 3 (30 Sept) | Introductions, Conclusions, and Organisation  
Learn how to present your thoughts in a clear structure and how to transition smoothly between your ideas. This session will also cover how to write effective introductions and conclusions. |
| Week 4 (7 Oct)  | Drop-in Session  
Students are invited to drop in with any specific questions they may have about writing, researching, or revising. |
| Week 5 (14 Oct) | Before You Submit Your Essay  
This session will focus on common mistakes that students make in their essays and address how to avoid being marked down for them. Topics include: clarity of thesis, organisation, use of primary and secondary sources, staying within the word count, and writing style. |
| Week 7 (28 Oct) | Time Management  
Learn how to manage your time more effectively and balance course reading, tutorial preparation, essay planning, and exam revision. |
| Week 8 (4 Nov)  | Secondary Sources and Citing Sources |
Learn how to find relevant scholarly material and interpret critical works to your advantage. Learn how to use source material effectively and how to present those sources. This session will also cover the logistics of using quotations and creating a bibliography.

Week 9 (11 Nov)  British Academic Writing
Learn the differences between British essay writing standards and other international styles of writing. This session will cover differences between American and British spelling, punctuation and grammar, as well as issues of style. It will also focus on the transition from writing essays for school to essays for university coursework.

Week 10 (18 Nov)  Close Reading
Learn how to read your primary sources thoroughly and critically. This session will focus on analysing texts and integrating quoted material into your analysis in essays.

Week 11 (25 Nov)  Drop-in Session
Students are invited to drop in with any specific questions they may have about writing, researching, or revising.

Week 12 (2 Dec)  Writing is Rewriting
Writing a polished essay in a single draft is nearly impossible. Learn how to develop your argument further during the writing process, drafting and re-drafting to ensure your argument is as clear as possible. This session will focus on tips for rewriting, revising, and editing.