

## Writing Workshops

### About the Series

This series of workshops is intended for JSGS students who want to improve their English writing skills and learn how to organize and write the particular documents that are required in the program. The workshops target areas in which students have difficulties, but the School's experience is that every student benefits from a familiarity with these rules and techniques. PowerPoint slides will be available on JSGS's website within 48 hours of the delivery of the workshops. To access them, click on "Students," scroll down to the heading "Resources," and then click on "Useful Links and Documents." You will find the workshop materials there.

### About the Facilitator

Heather McWhinney, Honours BA English; MLS; CERTESL

Formerly the Editorial Director for the College Division of textbook publisher Harcourt Brace, Heather McWhinney has more than 30 years of experience in academic writing and editing. Since 2011, she has been teaching advanced and graduate-level writing courses to graduate students at the University of Saskatchewan and the University of Regina.

### Schedule

Workshop	Date
1. <i>Academic Integrity: Strategies for Avoiding Plagiarism</i> You will learn exactly what JSGS considers to be plagiarism and strategies for avoiding it.	Room #210, 2 Research Dr. Friday, Oct. 7, 2016 10:00 a.m. – noon
2. <i>Writing a Well-Argued Paper</i> Argumentation is key to all academic and professional writing. You will learn how to make a convincing argument. This workshop is designed to help you with all your assignments at JSGS.	Room #210, 2 Research Dr. Friday, Oct. 7, 2016 1:00 p.m. – 3 p.m.
3. <i>Writing Well-Organized Paragraphs</i> Well-organized and persuasive papers begin with coherent paragraphs. In this workshop, we will focus on writing introductory, body and concluding paragraphs.	Room #210, 2 Research Dr. Friday, Oct. 21, 2016 10:00 a.m. – noon
4. <i>Writing a Literature Review</i> Knowing how to integrate the ideas and research results of others into your own argument is key to successful academic and professional writing. This workshop introduces you to the literature review.	Room #210, 2 Research Dr. Friday, Oct. 21, 2016 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.
5. <i>Writing a Proposal</i> You will learn JSGS's expectations for a strong proposal. We will explore these expectations with activities that focus on the abstract, introduction, literature review and methods section of a proposal.	Room #210, 2 Research Dr. Friday, Oct. 28, 2016 10:00 a.m. – noon
6. <i>Weaving Ideas Together: Flow and Coherence in Writing</i> You will learn how to improve flow and coherence in your writing by using a technique used by professional writers: the old-new information pattern.	Room #210, 2 Research Dr. Friday, Oct. 28, 2016 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.
7. <i>Plain Language: Ridding your Writing of Wordiness</i> Government documents are often marred by weak verbs and long dull sentences. You will learn how to make your writing engaging and readable.	Room #210, 2 Research Dr. Friday, Nov. 18, 2016 10:00 a.m. – noon
8. <i>Doing Effective Research</i> Research tools and search engines will be presented. With campus librarians Kate Cushon and Christina Winter	In the library – room TBA Friday, Nov. 18, 2016 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.
9. <i>Writing a Briefing Note</i> Succinct briefing notes are critical government documents. Through models of strong and weak briefing notes, you will learn what makes a good briefing note.	Room #210, 2 Research Dr. Friday, Nov. 25, 2016 9:30 – 10:45 a.m.

<p>10. <i>Writing Book and Article Critiques</i>          Learning how to evaluate scholarly work is essential for a graduate student. You will learn how to write critical book and article reviews.</p>	<p>Room #210, 2 Research Dr.          Friday, Nov. 25, 2016          11:00 a.m. – noon</p>
<p>11. <i>Mastering the English Sentence</i>          We will review sentence structure and common student errors such as: Fragments and comma splice.</p>	<p>Weekend workshop for ESL Students January 13/14, 2017</p>
<p>12. <i>Mastering English Verb Tenses in Academic and Professional Writing</i>          We will review English verb tenses and learn how and where to use them in documents, essays and proposals.</p>	<p>Weekend workshop for ESL Students January 13/14, 2017</p>
<p>13. <i>Expressing Caution</i>          Both academic and professional writers know how to adjust the strength of their writing often using modal verbs to do so (would, could, can, may, etc). Learn how to use other verbs to hedge and to qualify.</p>	<p>Weekend workshop for ESL Students January 13/14, 2017</p>
<p>14. <i>Using English Articles</i>          International students often have difficulty with articles. Review the rules for articles and you will practice using them in your writing.</p>	<p>Weekend workshop for ESL Students January 13/14, 2017</p>
<p>15. <i>Writing a Logic Model and Environmental Scan.</i>          You will learn how to write these key documents.</p>	<p>Winter term – TBA</p>
<p>16. <i>Overcoming Punctuation Problems</i>          Being able to write error free prose is essential for public servants. You will learn to recognize the errors that you tend to make and practice improving punctuation in sentences.</p>	<p>Winter term – TBA</p>
<p>17. <i>Writing about Data: Similarity, Difference, Comparison and Contrast</i>          Comparing data points and sets is a key part of academic writing, and a task that students need practice with.</p>	<p>Winter term – TBA</p>