✓ Each learner is different
✓ You are probably not the same student you were before
Expert writers:
✓ Embrace the writing process
✓ Practice writing early and often
✓ Write to learn before writing to explain
1. Invent
2. Draft
3. Revise
4. Edit
5. Finalize

- Writing to learn
- Writing to explain
- Ready to deliver
✓ Start before you are really ready
✓ Stop before you are really done
✓ Repeat

—Robert Boice
Invent
Draft
Revise
Edit
Finalize

Writing to learn
Writing to explain
Ready to deliver
Invent
Draft
Revise
Edit
Finalize

Writing to learn
Writing to explain
Ready to deliver
Perfectionism is the voice of the oppressor, the enemy of the people. It will keep you cramped and insane your whole life, and it is the main obstacle between you and a shitty first draft.

—Anne Lamott
DO ALL THE THINGS

TOMORROW

NORFOLK (June 23, 2010) Command Master Chief Keith Mahaffey, assigned to the guided-missile cruiser USS Monterey (CG 61), participates in the commissioning of the Navy Operational Fitness and Fueling System (NOFFS). NOFFS is the Navy’s new physical fitness program that is designed to give an all around workout while reducing physical training injuries. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Matthew Bookwalter/Released)
Invent
Draft
Revise
Edit
Finalize

Writing to learn
Writing to explain
Ready to deliver
✓ When you **draft**, try starting somewhere in the **middle**

✓ Choose something you already understand that your reader **needs to know**

✓ **Cite** as you go, **keeping track** of which words, ideas, and data belong to whom

✓ If you get stuck, **skip** to another subtopic within your project and **start** another paragraph.
Invent
Draft
Revise
Edit
Finalize

Writing to learn
Writing to explain
Ready to deliver
✓ Highlight (or write, if it’s missing) each paragraph’s **topic sentence**

✓ Quickly outline your draft and **audition** changes

✓ Fill **gaps and kill repetition**

✓ **Revise your thesis** and place it front and center—what have you proven?

✓ Now write (or revise) the **introduction** that sets up that thesis *and* a “so what, here’s why” **conclusion**
Invent
Draft
Revise
Edit
Finalize

Writing to learn
Writing to explain
Ready to deliver
✓ Take **time** away from your text

✓ Create **distance** between your text and your brain by reading sentences **out loud** and, perhaps, **out of order**

✓ Can you find the **subject** and **verb** of every sentence? And do they agree?

✓ Are you punctuating **consistently**?

✓ Did you spell everyone’s **name** correctly each time?

✓ **NOW** use **spell & grammar check**
Invent
Draft
Revise
Edit
Finalize

Writing to learn
Writing to explain
Ready to deliver
✓ Find and follow your format
✓ Check name spellings ONE MORE TIME
✓ Perfect citations and references according to your chosen style (don’t mix and match)
✓ Deliver through the proper channels
✓ Keep archive copies of all work
Need help with citation form? Dudley Knox Library’s Citation Guide has you covered!

Citation Guide
Learn how to cite articles, books, reports, theses, government documents, etc. using citation styles like APA, Chicago, IEEE, and more

Citation Styles by Department or Program

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Department or Program</th>
<th>Citation Style</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Acquisition Research Program</td>
<td>APA</td>
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<tr>
<td>Center for Homeland Defense and Security (CHDS)</td>
<td>Turabian (Notes &amp; Bibliography)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cyber Systems and Operations (CSO/MACO)</td>
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<tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electrical and Computer Engineering (ECE)</td>
<td>IEEE</td>
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</tbody>
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Expert Personalized Advice

- Drop-in hours: Mon–Fri, 1000–1400
- By appointment

- Drop-in hours in the GWC: Mon & Thu, 1500–1600
- Processors are also available Mon–Fri, 1200 to 1600, Library Rm. 111
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Use our **workshops, coaching sessions, and online resources**

Build writing habits now that will support you through your **thesis and beyond**