WELCOME TO THE NPS

GRADUATE WRITING CENTER

See what the GWC can do for you!

WritingCenter@nps.edu
https://nps.edu/GWC
Graduate Writing Center
A vital part of your NPS success team!

Live & Asynchronous
One-to-One
Writing Coaching
7 days a week

Dedicate Time to Write
Gain Strength Together
Write-ins
Fridays 10:00–14:30

30+ Academic Skills
Workshops
Specialized Sessions Each Term

Extensive Self-Paced
Online Resources
Available 24/7

Dudley Knox Library, 1st floor
831-656-3682
nps.edu/gwc
writingcenter@nps.edu
GRADUATE WRITING CENTER

SIGN UP ON

WConline

https://nps.edu/web/gwc/wconline-redirect

BOOK AN APPOINTMENT
Through the live and asynchronous coaching calendars

REGISTER FOR WORKSHOPS
Through the workshop calendar

Click here to learn the basics of WConline!
Fall Workshops

Presented by the Dudley Knox Library & Graduate Writing Center

Sept-Oct 2023

From Dudley Knox Library:

Library Quick Start
Develop research skills and learn how to use library search, databases, research guides, Google Scholar, and more!

Thesis Quick Start
Time to begin your thesis? Not sure how to start? This workshop covers academic research in general, as well as some NPS specifics.

Citation Management with Zotero
Save time and improve note-taking by learning Zotero, a free tool that helps you collect, manage, and format your references.

Inquiry and Argument:

Writing Persuasively: Logic, Evidence, and Style
This workshop exposes the expert moves behind stealthy persuasion. Learn how to logically organize a strong central argument, incorporate evidence, and convince your readers to trust your conclusions.

Critical Thinking in the Lit Review
Identify the differences between review and critical analysis so you can assess the strengths and weaknesses of other scholars.

Constructing Research Questions
Learn proven strategies for developing answerable questions given constraints in resources, time, paper length, topic, and data.

Thesis Skills:

Professional Executive Summaries
Executive summaries help your research find an audience. Learn how to prioritize information, avoid jargon, write persuasively, and navigate this form’s rules.

Illustrating Your Thesis with Figures and Tables
Master the art of knowing when and how various kinds of graphics—diagrams, graphs, photographs, tables—can clarify a process for the reader or illustrate an argument.

Using Sources in Your Work:

Paraphrasing and Quoting like a Pro
Confidently incorporate others’ words, ideas, analyses, models, and images into your writing through quoting, summarizing, and paraphrasing.

Debating with Your Sources: They Say/I Say
Learn the methods that scholars use to engage in larger debates so you can stand on equal footing with the writers in your field.

Register online: nps.edu/web/gwc/live-workshops
Fall Workshops  

Grad School Skills:  
**Strategic Reading I & II**  
In this popular workshop series, practice Professor Zachary Shore’s method of reading at the graduate level. Learn techniques to quickly examine and analyze texts. Sessions are targeted to STEM or social Science students.

**Mastering Note-Taking & Time Management**  
Learn and practice winning techniques for studying more effectively, taking useful notes, preparing for exams, and performing better during tests.

Perfecting Paper Structure:  
**What (Nearly) Every Academic Paper Needs**  
What are the building blocks that make academic papers fit together? You’ll learn about intros, conclusions, thesis statements, roadmaps, research questions, hypotheses, abstracts, citation styles, and more.

**Organization: The Secret to Academic Writing**  
Discover basic techniques that produce readable papers—introductions, topic sentences, and embedded structure in language—and effective tools for composition.

**Understanding Paper Types**  
Review the types of papers you may be asked to write at NPS.

**Interpreting Prompts**  
Learn strategies for decoding instructors’ essay-exam and paper prompts.

Writing Essentials & Revision:  
**Writing Essentials: Strong Sentences**  
Inspired by Strunk and White’s *The Elements of Style*, learn essential elements of academic writing, such as thesis statements, topic sentences, and paragraph structure.

**Writing Essentials: Grammar**  
Review common grammar errors writers make and learn how to avoid them. Topics include subject-verb agreement, relative clauses, pronoun agreement, and more.

**Writing Essentials: Punctuation**  
Learn about the common punctuation marks in graduate writing, from em dashes to Oxford commas, and how punctuation can connect ideas, convey tone, and clarify meaning.

**Writing Essentials: Clarity & Concision**  
Strip away the fluff and get to the BLUF! Clarity and concision techniques can transform an overly complicated draft into a cleanly written final version.

Register online:  
nps.edu/web/gwc/live-workshops
GRADUATE WRITING CENTER

ONE-TO-ONE WRITING COACHING

Writing and critical thinking help focused on your needs.

OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK
Live appointments: in person, Zoom, Teams, or phone
Asynchronous feedback via email
Drop-in help M–F, 1200–1300

SIGN UP ON WCONLINE
Click here to learn more about coaching

NPS.EDU/GWC
FACEBOOK.COM/NPSGWC
TWITTER.COM/NPSGWC
GRADUATE WRITING CENTER

WRITING COACHING

DROP-IN HOURS

Pressed for time? Have a quick question about a paper or a thesis?

Find us in the library!

M–F · 1200–1300

No drafts sent in advance, please. First come, first served.

https://nps.edu/web/gwc
WRITING A PAPER OR THESIS? WE'VE GOT YOU.

GWC Write-ins

Dedicate time to write and concentrate.
Set and meet writing goals.
Team with writing coaches and librarians.
Join and support your peers.

Fridays, 1000–1430
Meet in Herrmann Hall or on Zoom!

HTTPS://NPS.EDU/WEB/GWC/WRITE-INS
THINKING OF DOING HUMAN SUBJECTS RESEARCH?

focus groups
surveys
human data

questionnaires
interviews
behavior

START BY SPEAKING WITH THE IRB!

nps.edu/web/research/irb-home
Learning Tools at NPS

In support of your academic mission, we have assembled resources and best practices on the GWC website.

nps.edu/web/gwc/learning-tools

Lifestyle Factors:
Many factors in your life play a role in the learning process, such as your health and fitness, ability to relax, and sleep patterns. This page provides resources that will help you maximize your lifestyle in support of your educational goals.

- Physical and Mental Health
- Sleep
- Relaxation
- Play for Rejuvenation
- Healthy Relationships
- Support Networks

Back to School:
Nearly everyone who has been out of school for more than a few years can benefit from a basic skills refresher. This page lists resources to help you get on your feet quickly, whether you are a resident, international, or distance-learning student.

Vital Skills for Academic Success:
- Critical Thinking
- Note-taking
- Presentation Skills
- Active Reading
- Test-Taking
- Time Management

nps.edu/web/gwc/learning-tools
NPS is committed to assisting all students’ efforts to achieve academic success. Students with disabilities—whether temporary or permanent, visible or invisible—can receive a variety of services to adjust or enhance traditional teaching and testing.

NPS Program Officers coordinate services between faculty, staff, and students in an effort to offset circumstances that may negatively impact a student’s academic performance. At all points in the process, your private information is restricted solely to staff and faculty on a need-to-know basis.

What Are Reasonable Accommodations?
A reasonable accommodation is an adjustment or change to the environment that provides a student with an equal opportunity to learn and allows the individual to meaningfully participate in class activities.

Requesting Reasonable Accommodations at NPS
It is up to you to confidentially discuss your challenges and explore accommodations with NPS personnel. NPS is committed to making the process simple, fast, and discreet. Review the information on this website, then contact your program officer to get started.

Learning Styles:
Learning styles categorize the different ways that people learn. Culture, environment, and purpose can also affect the learning process. Use knowledge of learning styles to develop study habits that optimize your strengths, and challenge yourself to experience different styles of learning, giving yourself more tools.

Multiple Language Learners:
Whether you are visiting from another country or you have more than one language under your belt, you may find writing in American English a challenge at NPS. Use the links on this page to learn more about U.S. military writing style and formatting norms and polish your English. Visit the Writing Resources page for even more tools.

Research Refresher:
Most students are expected to conduct research: to collect and analyze information in order to answer a question, support an argument, and test a hypothesis. This complex, multi-step process will be less intimidating if you make research design choices that lead to more efficient work and meaningful findings. The tools here also help you get up to speed on terminology you will see in your readings.

Learning Resources
- Library Navigation
- Research Terminology
- Group Study and Writing
- Military Language
- English Language Learner Resources

nps.edu/web/gwc/learning-tools
Discover the GWC's Student Publishing Portal

https://nps.edu/web/gwc/publishing

Academic publishing overview
Calls for papers
Publication outlets
Military creative writing outlets
Conference papers and presentations
NPS students' published works

We also help students set publishing goals through our pre-submission coaching and two publishing workshops:

Writing for Online Outlets
Writing for Academic Journals
FROM THE GRADUATE WRITING CENTER

FOUNDATIONS OF ACADEMIC WRITING

Learn about expectations and gain grad school survival skills in this four-part presentation

FRIDAY, SEPT. 29, 12:00–14:00 PACIFIC
ME AUDITORIUM
Zoom Webinar for DL

Part 1: Introduction to Graduate Research & Writing

Part 2: Plagiarism Prevention

Part 3: The Writing Process

Part 4: Going Straight to the Source: Human Subjects Data

MANDATORY FOR NEW STUDENTS