

@USFWriting

Feb/March 2017

MONTHLY MESSAGE *from* THE STUDIO

February is the month we generally associate with love, but it's also a time for new beginnings. January often flies by, and here we are in February still feeling the hope of the New Year, the motivation for the goals we've set, and the urgency to take steps toward becoming who we want to be.

And if writing is a technology that restructures thought as professor and philosopher Walter J. Ong says, then we think in writing. Therefore, writing is a huge part of how we construct ourselves and the world around us.

This introduction, I'll admit, is also part love

letter. To the goals we've made, to what we will achieve this year, and to the people we've promised ourselves we will eventually become.

Whether you're simply brainstorming how to approach a writing assignment, revising a thesis or dissertation, or applying to scholarships and graduate programs, know that we, at the Writing Studio, are here for you, and that through consultation we can help you clarify your writing, your thoughts, and help you towards succeeding in your academic, professional, and personal pursuits.

-Annalise Mabe,
Co-Coordinator

#WritersofUSF



"I'd like to write about my life someday so that people with similar experiences can connect to it. I used to be really into writing in high school. My favorite writing instructor was actually my lit teacher in my senior year. Sometimes teachers ask questions just to ask, but she respected us and valued our input."

- Berto Varela, Business Analytics/
Information Systems Major

CONSULTANT QUIPS [Quick Tips for Writers]

"Sometimes, separating from the writing for a brief period of time might help the writers. This way, when they return to their writing, they will be able to look at their work from a fresh and new perspective and make improvements to it."

-SASHI

"Some writers become overwhelmed when they realize that what they have written is not what they meant to write. That's why I encourage them to record themselves and listen to their ideas before putting them on paper."

-GIULI

"Inside the United States, the punctuation goes inside the quotation marks; outside of the United States, the punctuation goes outside the quotation marks."

-JENNIFER

SCHEDULE APPOINTMENT:

IN PERSON
USF Tampa Library - 2nd Floor

BY PHONE
(813) 974-8293

ONLINE
usf.edu/writing

#WritingConsultantsofUSF



“Currently, I am in the process of exploring new directions and possibilities for my career. Revising my resume and composing cover letters has been challenging because I’m trying to take eight years of experience in language teaching and explain it in a way that sounds valuable to employers in new fields.”

“Sometimes, writers come into the Studio not knowing how to get started on their piece or not sure if their writing is clear or organized well. I enjoy helping these writers make sense of their ideas and then forge ahead and make progress. Rather than telling a writer what to do, I think it’s important for me, as the consultant, to ask a lot of questions and allow writers to reach their own conclusions.”

- Christen Bouchard, Former USF Writing Consultant

For Graduate Writers

“What’s your advice for determining your focus for your thesis/dissertation?”

Writer’s often put a lot of pressure on themselves to come up with a concise thesis statement or focal point immediately after deciding to write a thesis or dissertation - Don’t! Just start writing - write about what you’re interested in and let your creative juices flow. Once you’ve written a couple of pages, put it aside for a day or two. When you pick it up again, read through it, and see what themes you see repeating themselves throughout your writing. This is your main idea. If a theme doesn't immediately jump out at you, keep writing, you’ll find one. If you find yourself struggling to determine your thesis, have a friend read it and see what they think your topic is. Either way, it’s important to give yourself time and not stress out over a single sentence out of many. The brilliance is there - just relax and let it happen!



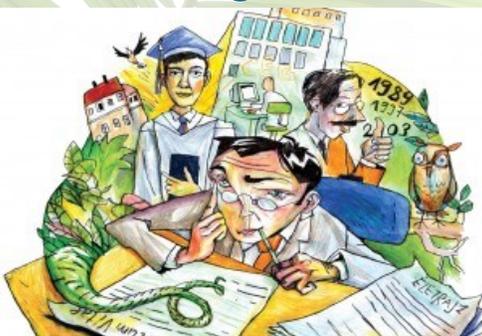
-Jennifer, M.A.

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Writers Blog



Résumé Writing for Undergraduates
By: Sandy Branham

It can be difficult to write an impressive résumé that will highlight your accomplishments thus far when you have limited job experience. In this post, Sandy provides undergraduates with a number of strategies to fill up their résumé to make their skills, experience, and abilities clear to anyone who looks over their résumé, even without work experience. Sandy advises writers to include relevant courses and projects, volunteer work, and skills on their résumés to help fill up the page with useful information that will show potential employers or admissions offices exactly what you have to offer in terms of strengths and ability.

Visit the Writers Blog at www.lib.usf.edu/writersblog/ for more insight!

Writing Professionals Blog

When working as a consultant it is common for a writer to become a “regular.” This blog explains how this can be beneficial to both the consultant and the writer as it allows for a professional acquaintanceship to develop between the two. This is also nice since it helps the consultant to be familiar with the writer’s work. Remembering the little things about a writer is neither a monumental investment nor a strenuous mental effort, and it is also helpful to the consultant as it positively affects the progress of the consultation.

Visit the Writing Professionals Blog at www.lib.usf.edu/writingprofessionals/ to read more!

Encouraging Regulars by Remembering Little Things
By: Anonymous

