

@USFWriting

Nov 2016

MONTHLY MESSAGE *from* THE STUDIO

November is traditionally a month of thankfulness, and here in the USF Writing Studio we have a lot to be grateful for.

Our space on the second floor of the library is spacious, attractive, and comfortable. (If you haven't seen it before, stop in for a visit!) Our space was already decorated with student-made art and art-themed decor, and recently we've added to it with our new, interactive bulletin board installations.

We are also grateful for what fills our space, especially our group of intelligent, knowledgeable, and friendly consultants—all graduate students trained

in consulting who hail from a variety of departments. Our desk staff also tops our gratitude list, as they schedule appointments, check people in, and generally keep many of the day-to-day operations running smoothly.

Finally, we are grateful to our writers. Whether undergraduates, grad students, or faculty members, the writers are the reason we exist. We couldn't do it without them.

What are you grateful for this season?

—Jay Thompson,
Assistant Coordinator

#WritersofUSF



How I feel about writing depends on the subject. If it's something I'm interested in and familiar with, I feel comfortable to talk about what I know. If it's something new or not so interesting, I feel less comfortable because I don't want to say things I'm not sure about.

I want to go to dental school, and the best paper I ever wrote was a research paper related to dentistry. It was really helpful for me, I learned a lot to prepare me for the career I want to do in the future.

—Khalifah, Junior
Integrative Biology Major

CONSULTANT QUIPS [Quick Tips for Writers]

Leave your draft for a day before returning to it for revisions and editing. By giving yourself some distance from your writing, you are more likely to see the mistakes or issues present in your draft when you return to it.

—LESLEY

When writing cover letters and personal statement, turn your weakness into a strength. Show how you were able to view your challenges as an opportunity for development and how you were able to overcome your obstacles in order to grow as a stronger candidate.

—NILOFER

Read your work aloud during the editing process. You will often catch any written mistakes yourself this way.

—SASHI

SCHEDULE APPOINTMENT

IN PERSON
USF Library, 2nd Floor

BY PHONE
813-974-8293

ONLINE
usf.edu/writing

#WritingConsultantsofUSF

I love that I get to learn something new when I come to work here. As a consultant, I get to meet so many students from different disciplines. It doesn't matter what their level in school is, I can always take something away from the interaction.



Some of my favorite documents to consult for are personal statements and cover letters. The amount of human potential and passion embedded within each person's letter drives me to improve my consultation skills every day.

—Nilofer Bharwani,
M.A. in Applied Linguistics
& Spanish Literature

Writers Blog

Explaining the difference between revision, editing, and proofreading, Carmella Guiol, Creative Writing Master's Student, gives the example of an artist making multiple sketches of their work—each one a revision—prior to putting a paintbrush to canvas. This analogy illustrates that works of writing also go through multiple revisions before the final product is revealed. Similarly to an artist sketching their work, making changes, and then painting the final version, the writing process should involve multiple drafts to create the best final product. Oftentimes the completed work looks different than the original.

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



Revision: The 95%.
by Carmella Guiol



**Negotiating the
Teacher-Consultant Identity,**
by Caitlin Klueber

Writing Professionals Blog

Many consultants who work at the studio are also teachers. This blog talks about the differences between helping students from teacher-perspective and consultant-perspective. Caitlin Klueber, writes:

“That the writers are willing to trust our advice as consultants, experiment with different writing styles, and incorporate new ideas into their work clearly shows how collaboration and writing studio pedagogy can work extremely well in helping to coach writers as they familiarize themselves with writing processes.”

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

For Graduate Writers

Science graduates often freak out when writing a manuscript for an academic, peer-reviewed journal, especially if it is their first manuscript. While writing a manuscript may look like a daunting task, it can also be a very rewarding experience if you know what you are doing. Most science research articles follow the organizational structure of **IMRaD**: **I**ntroduction, **M**ethods, **R**esults, and **D**iscussion. The section names appear to be self-explanatory. But, many a time, graduate students face issues with writing specifically for each section.



For a more detailed discussion on **IMRaD**, read the rest of Sashi's blog on www.lib.usf.edu/writersblog/.

—Sashi Gurram, Ph.D. Candidate in Civil
& Environmental Engineering