

HUME CENTER

WRITING AND SPEAKING

Writing Tutoring FAQs

Who should go for writing tutoring?

Writing tutoring is for everyone, because all writers need readers and benefit from sharing their writing with others. Regardless of your discipline and classification, or where you are in the writing process, we would be delighted to support you!

What should I expect during a writing tutorial?

Writing consultations are based on purposeful conversation between you and a writing tutor. So, you can expect to do a great deal of talking as you explain your ideas or writing goals. Wherever you are in the writing process (brainstorming, drafting, revising, fine-tuning), the tutor may suggest approaches or provide constructive feedback on selected sections of your draft, focusing on elements such as organization, argument, or style. Because our goal is to help you improve and develop as a writer, we focus on giving you tools and strategies you can use to edit and proofread your own writing.

What kinds of writing can I bring for tutoring?

We support students across classes and majors and at any point in their composing process from brainstorming to revision. We also support students with writing that is not for academic courses, such as applications, public writing, and passion projects.

When is the best time to go for tutoring? Must I wait until I have a draft?

We highly recommend meeting with a tutor early in the writing process—for example, during the early brainstorming phase, or when you have a first draft prepared—so that you have time to revise before your deadline. We can work with you on brainstorming, narrowing down a topic, organization, research skills, idea integration, transitions, style, and more!

Does tutoring cost anything, and how often can I go?

Tutoring is free to all Stanford undergraduate and graduate students. Students may book up to two writing appointments weekly. Drop-in writing tutorials are available on a first come, first serve basis.

For more information, visit hume.stanford.edu/tutoring, or email us at humecenter@stanford.edu.