



Fall AY2021 Workshops

Graduate Writing Center and Dudley Knox Library

All workshops will be held via Zoom (Pacific Standard Time) during fall quarter.

Zoom log-in information (different for each workshop) is listed at

<https://nps.edu/web/gwc/resident-workshops>



GRAD-SCHOOL SURVIVAL

Building Blocks of Academic Papers

Betsy Wallace

• Thursday, October 8, 1000–1100

Zoom

Not sure how an analysis differs from an argument? How an introduction should be different from a conclusion? How a thesis statement differs from an abstract? Are you unclear about the role of alternative explanations, what goes in a bibliography, what to footnote other than sources, or the point and structure of a literature review? Come learn how the building blocks of academic papers fit together, making your papers more readable and complete.

How to Give a Classroom Presentation

Michael Thomas

• Tuesday, October 13, 1500–1630

Zoom

Most graduate students will, at some point, have to deliver an oral report. Knowing what to say and how to say it is a challenge. Here, you'll learn to forge a powerful presentation, penetrate to the core of your subject, and pull it off in style. We will identify the elements of strong and weak presentations, suggesting ways you can improve your own oral communication.

Mastering Note-Taking and Time Management

Cheryldee Huddleston

• Tuesday, October 20, 1000–1130

Zoom

You take notes and learn the subject matter, so why is it so difficult to communicate your knowledge during tests? And where does all the time go? Knowing a few key strategies can make all the difference. This workshop will provide you with winning techniques for studying more effectively, taking useful notes, preparing for exams, and performing better during tests; you'll also receive practical, step-by-step methods for a "time investment" daily schedule.

Understanding Paper Types and Prompts

Chloe Woida

• Saturday, October 17, 1000–1130

Zoom

You've just received a prompt for a class paper. You read it once, then twice, and still can't figure out what you're being asked to do or what kind of paper you're supposed to write. Sound familiar? This workshop will identify types of papers you may be asked to write at NPS and offer strategies for decoding and understanding instructors' prompts.

Reading with Intent, Level I:

Kate Egerton

Social Sciences and Business or Michelle Morneau

• Friday, October 2, 1300–1430

Zoom

• Tuesday, October 6, 1730–1900

Zoom

• Thursday, October 15, 1000–1130

Zoom

• Tuesday, October 20, 1530–1700

Zoom

• Saturday, October 24, 1000–1130

Zoom

So much reading, so little time! Learn and practice Dr. Zach Shore's method of reading for argument at the graduate level in this workshop, tailored to social science and business fields. Dr. Shore's "search and destroy" technique allows you to comprehend and synthesize an author's arguments efficiently. Level I teaches the "search" half—how to quickly extract an author's thesis and structure from an academic article. Though this method may take time to perfect, once you do, the payoff is high in terms of comprehension, time saved, and enhanced critical thinking skills. *Also, be sure to check out Reading with Intent Level II, which offers techniques for analyzing sources' arguments.*

Reading with Intent, Level I: STEM Fields Kate Egerton

- Friday, October 23, 1200–1330 Zoom

So much reading, so little time! Adapted from Dr. Zach Shore’s method of reading for argument at the graduate level, this new workshop is tailored to science, technology, engineering, and mathematics fields. Learn and practice reading techniques that allow you to comprehend and synthesize an author’s arguments efficiently. This workshop teaches how to quickly extract an author’s thesis and structure from an academic article. Though this method may take time to perfect, once you do, the payoff is high in terms of comprehension, time saved, and enhanced critical thinking skills. *Also, be sure to check out Reading with Intent Level II, which offers techniques for analyzing sources’ arguments.*

Technical Writing Jasmine Mally

- Wednesday, October 21, 1000–1130 Zoom

Are you more comfortable solving equations than drafting sentences? Come focus on the precise skills you need to write clear technical reports and theses. In this workshop, we will dissect a well-written report, decide what makes it effective, identify steps you can use to emulate its features, and review editing and proofreading strategies appropriate for technical writing.

RESEARCH AND CITATION

Citation Management with Zotero Kathy Norton or Glen Koué

- Friday, October 9, 1000–1150 Zoom
- Friday, October 16, 1000–1150 Zoom
- Friday, October 23, 1000–1150 **NEWLY ADDED** Zoom

Learn how to use Zotero, a free tool that you can use to centrally collect, manage, and format your references in APA, Chicago, IEEE, and other citation styles. We will also show you how to use Zotero’s Word plug-in to cite while you write your papers or thesis. This workshop is “hands-on,” so bring your own laptop! Workshop size is limited, and **registration at least 24 hours in advance is required.** After registering, you will receive an email with installation and setup instructions, which you will need to complete prior to the class.

Paraphrasing and Quoting Like a Pro Sandra Leavitt and Greta Marlatt

- Thursday, October 8, 1530–1700 Zoom
- Wednesday, October 14, 1000–1130 Zoom

You’ve all heard what you *shouldn’t* be doing: don’t violate the Honor Code, don’t plagiarize, don’t forget the rules of academic integrity. This workshop focuses on what *to do* to avoid these serious problems. We give you the skills to confidently incorporate others’ words, ideas, analyses, models, and images into your own writing. You will gain experience summarizing, paraphrasing, and incorporating quotations from source material.

Library Quick Start Kathy Norton

- Tuesday, October 6, 1200–1250 Zoom
- Wednesday, October 14, 1200–1250 Zoom

Develop your research skills and learn how to use the library search, library databases, research guides, Google Scholar, and more!

CRITICAL THINKING

Debating with Your Sources: They Say/I Say Cheryldee Huddleston

- Tuesday, October 13, 1000–1130 Zoom

Do your academic readings make you feel like an outsider? Don’t remain an unheard voice in the wilderness: learn how to construct your paper as a “conversation with others.” In this workshop, inspired by the popular writing book, *They Say/I Say*, you will learn through hands-on activities the methods that scholars use to engage in larger debates. Your readers will understand you better, and you will stand on equal footing with the writers in your field.

Reading with Intent, Level II Betsy Wallace

- Wednesday, October 7, 1300–1430 Zoom
- Wednesday, October 21, 1300–1430 Zoom

Level II teaches the “destroy” half of Dr. Shore’s “search and destroy” technique. Learn how to critically examine a text for its strengths and weaknesses.

Crafting Convincing

Daniel Lehnherr

Arguments: Attack and Defense

- Saturday, October 17, 1000–1130 Zoom
- Thursday, October 22, 1530–1700 Zoom

You employ persuasion every day, but are you comfortable crafting formal academic arguments? This workshop covers the strategies and conventions of written argumentation that are essential to your NPS studies and career. Hands-on exercises help you organize your lines of attack, remedy any gaps in your defense, anticipate your adversary's counterargument, and deliver the decisive blow through a convincing refutation.

Critical Thinking in Review

Alison Scharmota

- Wednesday, October 14, 1500–1630 Zoom

Imagine a conversation among all the scholars who have contributed to your research topic. Assessing the strengths, weaknesses, agreements, and disagreements of their combined wisdom is the essence of a literature review. Using the Just War Theory, this workshop presents two examples of capturing the "conversation" and helps you identify the differences between review and critical analysis. Through guided discussion, you will be better equipped to understand and write literature reviews.

My Glory Never Dies: The Military in Literature, Film and Onstage

Cheryldee Huddleston

- Friday, October 2, 0900-1130 Zoom

The Trojan War/Battle of Agincourt:

Through the arts and stories of the military, develop your critical thinking skills. In the Trojan War/Battle of Agincourt workshop, listen to selections from Homer's *The Iliad*, watch filmed scenes from Euripides's tragedy, *The Trojan Women*, and Shakespeare's famous "St. Crispin's Day Speech" in *Henry V* and *Renaissance Man*, as we explore the concepts of courage, honor, and glory that have defined the lives and careers of military officers throughout centuries.

- Friday, October 16, 0900-1130 Zoom

The U.S. Civil War

Through the arts and stories of the military, develop your critical thinking skills. In the U.S. Civil War workshop, watch selections from the film *Glory* and filmed scenes from the play, *The Andersonville Trial*, and read Walt Whitman's "Civil War poetry," as we explore the concepts of courage, honor, and glory that have defined the lives and careers of military officers throughout centuries.

- Friday, October 23, 0900-1130 Zoom

World War II:

Through the arts and stories of the military, develop your critical thinking skills. In the World War II workshop, watch selections from the films *The Best Years of Our Lives*, *Catch-22*, *Saving Private Ryan*, and *Dunkirk*, as we explore the concepts of courage, honor, and glory that have defined the lives and careers of military officers throughout centuries.

- Friday, October 30, 0900-1130 Zoom

The Cold War and Vietnam:

Through the arts and stories of the military, develop your critical thinking skills. In the Cold War/Vietnam workshop, watch selections from the films *Dr. Strangelove: Or How I Learned to Stop Worrying and Love the Bomb*, *The Deer Hunter*, and *Apocalypse Now*, as we explore the concepts of courage, honor, and glory that have defined the lives and careers of military officers throughout centuries.

- Friday, November 6, 0900-1130 Zoom

Iraq and Afghanistan

Through the arts and stories of the military, develop your critical thinking skills. In the Iraq/Afghanistan workshop, watch selections from films, including *The Hurt Locker* and *Lone Survivor*, as we explore the concepts of courage, honor, and glory that have defined the lives and careers of military officers throughout centuries.

PLANNING AND ORGANIZATION

Beyond Brainstorming: Taking Control of the Writing Process Chloe Woida

- Wednesday, October 14, 1300–1430 Zoom

Not sure where to begin? Maybe you're drowning in information—or struggling to wrestle complex ideas onto the page? This workshop focuses on ways to generate, organize, and clarify your thinking, leading to a smoother writing process. Consider ways to adapt your process based on individual strengths, and review tried-and-true pre-writing techniques: free-writing, brainstorming, concept mapping, and outlining.

Organization: The Secret to Academic Writing John Locke

- Wednesday, October 7, 1000–1100 Zoom
- Tuesday, October 13, 1300–1400 Zoom

Academic, or research-based writing is distinct from other forms of writing: our primary purpose is to describe knowledge, which, at the graduate level, is most likely to address the logical connections between ideas—a task that calls for *structured* writing. This workshop introduces basic techniques that produce readable papers—comprehensive introductions, topic sentences, and embedding structure in language—and effective tools for composition. You will learn a systematic process for learning and writing that will focus your effort where it counts the most.

MECHANICS, GRAMMAR, AND STYLE

Building Better Sentences, Level I Colette O'Connor

- Monday, October 19, 1300–1430 Zoom
- Thursday, October 22, 1000–1130 Zoom

If you daydreamed through the grammar lessons of your schooldays, take heart: through clear and simple explanations, we demystify terms and concepts that seasoned writers take for granted, focusing on enhancing sentence structure by defining sentence elements, patterns, and the active voice. Because Building Better Sentences focuses on making already correct sentences better, we recommend you take (or request materials for) the Mastery Series—Grammar, Punctuation, and Clarity and Concision—beforehand if you want a refresher on writing fundamentals. Then, after this workshop, in just 90 minutes, your ideas and sentences will shine that much more brightly!

Mastery Series: Grammar Jasmine Mally

- Wednesday, October 7, 1700–1830 Zoom

Review examples of common grammar errors students make in their writing. The common errors covered include subject-verb agreement, use of relative clauses, connecting and punctuation of clauses, pronoun-antecedent agreement, and spotting and changing passive voice to active. You'll first learn the rule to avoid or fix these errors, then practice it in a hands-on activity.

Mastery Series: Punctuation Michael Thomas

- Thursday, October 15, 1200–1330 Zoom

Small symbols with great power, punctuation marks can do it all—connect ideas, convey tone, clarify meaning. Used incorrectly, however, they can undermine your writing, distract and confuse readers, and diminish confidence in your academic work. In this workshop, we cover the most common punctuation marks in graduate writing. Examples, quizzes, and detailed explanations ensure that you leave with a solid grasp of everything from em dashes to Oxford commas—including that most mysterious mark of all, the semicolon.

Mastery Series: Clarity and Concision Alison Scharmota

- Thursday, October 22, 1200–1330 Zoom

Learn which conventions are rules, NPS norms, and style tips, all of which will help you masterfully put your words to work for you! Excellent clarity and concision stands as the core goal at the graduate and professional level of writing, so we have put together some writing master tips to make your life easier and your writing sassier in just 90 minutes.

Strategies for Active-Voice Writing Matt Norton

- Thursday, October 8, 1200–1330 Zoom

Overusing passive voice is one of the most common stylistic blunders in academic writing; it can be hard to identify and tricky to fix. At the same time, passive voice does have its uses. This workshop will explain what passive voice looks like and why in most cases active constructions are a better choice. Lessons and activities will show you how to transform passive-voice sentences and also identify situations when you might want to use them. You will leave with strategies to select the best possible verbs, to craft more interesting prose, and to express your ideas more clearly.

THESIS WRITING

Constructing Research Questions Sandra Leavitt

- Wednesday, October 7, 1500–1630 Zoom

Constructing a research question is probably the most important task for any paper you write. An overly broad question becomes mission impossible, while an excessively narrow question won't help fill the pages. Learn strategies for identifying answerable, interesting questions. A compelling research question will keep you motivated and your reader engaged.

Mastering the Literature Review John Locke

- Monday, October 19, 1000–1130 Zoom

A master's degree requires mastering a field, and that mastery is demonstrated in a literature review, a required component of most theses and many papers. It is not, as is often believed, a multi-title book review. It is, rather, a comprehensive evaluation of the literature relevant to your research question. More than a summary, it identifies strengths and inadequacies in the existing literature, which dovetails with your goal of adding new knowledge to your field. In this workshop, you will learn how literature reviews are constructed and how to make yours justify your research.

Thesis Quick Start Glen Koué

- Wednesday, October 7, 1200–1250 Zoom
- Tuesday, October 13, 1200–1250 Zoom

Is it time to begin your thesis? Not sure how to start? This workshop will cover academic research and writing in general, as well as the specifics of the NPS thesis process. Learn how to navigate the process and launch your thesis with confidence.

Professional Executive Summaries Abby McConnell

- Thursday, October 15, 1500–1600 Zoom

The quality of your executive summaries influences how others perceive you and your research. Executive summaries publicize your work, provide busy decision makers with actionable information, and generate readers for your research. Learn how to prioritize and organize essential information, avoid jargon, write more powerfully and persuasively, and navigate this specific form's rules. By examining excerpts, we will identify best practices and apply those lessons to summarizing research in different fields.

Writing about Tables and Figures Sandra Leavitt

- Tuesday, October 20, 1300–1430 Zoom

Will your thesis have four or 84 figures? Images in academic writing need to be skillfully discussed in both the body of your paper and in captions. We will practice writing about flow charts, graphs, set-off quotes, and tables. The techniques also apply to equations and computer code. A simple formula will help you consistently and professionally describe figures and their sources, and explain to your readers how each image supports your argument.

Take a break, exercise your imagination, and build community!

*“My Glory Never Dies”:
The Military in Literature, Film, and Onstage*
Cheryldee Huddleston

All classes will be held via Zoom from 0900 – 1130.

- Friday, October 2 Part I: The Trojan War/Battle of Agincourt
- Friday, October 16 Part II: The U.S. Civil War
- Friday, October 23 Part III: World War II
- Friday, October 30 Part IV: The Cold War/Vietnam
- Friday, November 6 Part V: Iraq/Afghanistan

Students can enroll in single sessions or in all.
Faculty and staff welcome.

Join lively discussions that strengthen your analytical skills and stem from your own responses and questions. Through the arts, develop your critical thinking as you explore the ancient concepts of courage, honor, and military glory, which have defined the lives and careers of military officers for centuries. Experience a compelling sampler of literature and performances—live, filmed, and audio—that have influenced Western culture and even military policy.

The workshop will be guided by Dr. Cheryldee Huddleston—GWC writing coach, playwright, and arts facilitator.

Fall AY2021 Workshop Schedule by Date

Day	Date	Workshop	Time	Instructor	Room
Friday	10/2	My Glory Never Dies: The Trojan War	0900–1130	Huddleston	Zoom
Friday	10/2	Reading with Intent-I	1300–1430	Egerton	Zoom
Tuesday	10/6	Library Quick Start	1200–1250	Norton, K.	Zoom
Tuesday	10/6	Reading with Intent-I	1730–1900	Egerton	Zoom
Wednesday	10/7	Organization: The Secret to Academic Writing	1000–1100	Locke	Zoom
Wednesday	10/7	Thesis Quick Start	1200–1250	Koue	Zoom
Wednesday	10/7	Reading with Intent-II	1300–1430	Wallace	Zoom
Wednesday	10/7	Constructing Research Questions	1500–1630	Leavitt	Zoom
Wednesday	10/7	Mastery Series: Grammar	1700–1830	Mally	Zoom
Thursday	10/8	Building Blocks of Academic Papers	1000–1100	Wallace	Zoom
Thursday	10/8	Strategies of Active-Voice Writing	1200–1330	Norton, M.	Zoom
Thursday	10/8	Paraphrasing and Quoting Like a Pro	1530–1700	Leavitt/Marlatt	Zoom
Friday	10/9	Citation Management with Zotero	1000–1150	Norton, K.	Zoom
Tuesday	10/13	Debating with Your Sources: They Say/I Say	1000–1130	Huddleston	Zoom
Tuesday	10/13	Thesis Quick Start	1200–1250	Koue	Zoom
Tuesday	10/13	Organization: The Secret to Academic Papers	1300–1400	Locke	Zoom
Tuesday	10/13	How to Give a Classroom Presentation	1500–1630	Thomas	Zoom
Wednesday	10/14	Paraphrasing and Quoting Like a Pro	1000–1130	Leavitt/Marlatt	Zoom
Wednesday	10/14	Library Quick Start	1200–1250	Norton, K.	Zoom
Wednesday	10/14	Beyond Brainstorming: Taking Control of the Writing Process	1300–1430	Woida	Zoom
Wednesday	10/14	Critical Thinking in Review	1500–1630	Scharmota	Zoom
Thursday	10/15	Reading with Intent-I	1000–1130	Morneau	Zoom
Thursday	10/15	Mastery Series: Punctuation	1200–1330	Thomas	Zoom
Thursday	10/15	Professional Executive Summaries	1500–1600	McConnell	Zoom
Friday	10/16	My Glory Never Dies: The U.S. Civil War	0900–1130	Huddleston	Zoom
Friday	10/16	Citation Management with Zotero	1000–1150	Koue	Zoom
Saturday	10/17	Understanding Paper Types and Prompts	1000–1130	Woida	Zoom
Saturday	10/17	Crafting Convincing Arguments: Attack/Defense	1000–1130	Lehnherr	Zoom
Monday	10/19	Mastering the Literature Review	1000–1130	Locke	Zoom
Monday	10/19	Building Better Sentences-I	1300–1430	O'Connor	Zoom
Tuesday	10/20	Mastering Note-Taking and Time Management	1000–1130	Huddleston	Zoom
Tuesday	10/20	Writing about Tables and Figures	1300–1430	Leavitt	Zoom
Tuesday	10/20	Reading with Intent-I	1530–1700	Egerton	Zoom
Wednesday	10/21	Technical Writing	1000–1130	Mally	Zoom
Wednesday	10/21	Reading with Intent-II	1300–1430	Wallace	Zoom
Thursday	10/22	Building Better Sentences-I	1000–1130	O'Connor	Zoom
Thursday	10/22	Mastery Series: Clarity and Concision	1200–1330	Scharmota	Zoom
Thursday	10/22	Crafting Convincing Arguments: Attack/Defense	1530–1700	Lehnherr	Zoom
Friday	10/23	My Glory Never Dies: World War II	0900–1130	Huddleston	Zoom

Day	Date	Workshop	Time	Instructor	Room
Friday	10/23	Citation Management with Zotero	1000-1150	Koue	Zoom
Friday	10/23	Reading with Intent: STEM	1200-1330	Egerton	Zoom
Saturday	10/24	Reading with Intent-I	1000-1130	Morneau	Zoom
Friday	10/30	My Glory Never Dies: The Cold War/Vietnam	0900-1130	Huddleston	Zoom
Friday	11/6	My Glory Never Dies: Iraq and Afghanistan	0900-1130	Huddleston	Zoom