



WINTER AY2025 Workshops

Graduate Writing Center and Dudley Knox Library



Registration is required for each session via [WOnline](#)

All times shown are Pacific

LOCATIONS: Find building and room numbers for on-campus sessions below

ZOOM LOGINS: Logins and passwords for Zoom sessions are available [online](#)

January–February 2025

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
6	7	8 1100 Generative AI for Research & Writing, <i>DKL 151</i>	9	10 1030 Strategic Reading I, <i>GL 115</i>	11 1100 Pre-Writing and Planning, <i>Zoom</i>
13	14 1000 Strong Sentences, <i>DKL 151</i> 1200 Research Quick Start, <i>Zoom</i>	15 1200 Thesis Quick Start, <i>Zoom</i> 1200 What Every Paper Needs, <i>DKL 151</i>	16 1200 Strategic Reading-I, <i>DKL 151</i>	17 1000 Citations with Zotero, <i>Zoom</i> 1200 What Every Paper Needs, <i>Zoom</i>	18
20	21 1200 Thesis Quick Start, <i>Zoom</i> 1500 Strategic Reading-STEM, <i>DKL 151</i>	22 1000 Clarity & Concision, <i>DKL 151</i> 1200 Research Quick Start, <i>Zoom</i> 1800 LaTeX, <i>Zoom</i>	23 1000 Writing Persuasively, <i>Zoom</i> 1200 Generative AI, <i>Zoom</i>	24 1000 Citations with Zotero, <i>Zoom</i>	25 1000 Strategic Reading-I, <i>Zoom</i>
27	28 1200 Executive Summaries, <i>DKL 151</i> 1500 Strategic Reading II-Critiquing, <i>DKL 151</i>	29 1000 Active-Voice Writing, <i>Zoom</i>	30	31 1200 Paraphrasing and Quoting, <i>Zoom</i>	<div style="border: 1px solid gray; padding: 5px;"> Thurs, Feb. 6 1200 Revision Tips, <i>Zoom</i> </div> <div style="border: 1px solid gray; padding: 5px; margin-top: 5px;"> Fri, Feb. 21 1000 Revision Tips, <i>Zoom</i> </div>

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Find Zoom logins on the [GWC website](#)

Want more info? <https://nps.edu/gwc>

Questions? writingcenter@nps.edu

Workshop Descriptions and Details

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GRAD SCHOOL SURVIVAL

Generative AI for Research and Writing

Chloe Woida[^]

- Wednesday, Jan. 8, 1100–1230—DKL 151
- Thursday, Jan. 23, 1200–1330—Zoom

Curious about how—or whether—to use generative AI tools like ChatGPT and Copilot to support your research and writing? Do you have AI literacy skills to navigate disruptive technologies? This workshop will help you explore generative AI confidently and ethically. Through use cases and discussions, we'll identify when to avoid generative AI tools, when to exercise caution, and when to use them freely to support your work.

Strategic Reading, Level I

Michelle Morneau[^]
or Kate Egerton[^]

- Friday, Jan. 10, 1030–1200—Glasgow 115
- Thursday, Jan. 16, 1200–1330—DKL 151
- Saturday, Jan. 25, 1000–1130—Zoom

So much reading, so little time! Learn Dr. Zach Shore's method of reading for argument at the graduate level, tailored to social science and business fields. Dr. Shore's "search and destroy" technique allows you to 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. This method takes time to perfect, but the payoff is high in terms of better comprehension and time saved. *For the "destroy" half, see Strategic Reading, Level II: Critiquing a Text.*

Strategic Reading for STEM

Michelle Morneau[^]

- Tuesday, Jan. 21, 1500–1630—DKL 151

So much reading, so little time! Learn Dr. Zach Shore's method of reading for argument at the graduate level, tailored to STEM fields. Dr. Shore's "search and destroy" technique allows you to synthesize an author's arguments efficiently. This workshop teaches the "search" half—how to quickly extract an author's thesis and structure from an academic article. This method takes time to perfect, but the payoff is high in terms of comprehension and time saved.

What (Nearly) Every Academic Paper Needs

Lauren Callihan[^]

or Joshua Converse[^]

- Wednesday, Jan. 15, 1200–1300—DKL 151
- Friday, Jan. 17, 1200–1300—Zoom

What are the common elements of NPS academic papers? What do professors *expect*? Learn how the building blocks of academic papers fit together, making your papers more readable, complete, and academic. In this overview, you'll learn about intros, conclusions, thesis statements, roadmaps, research questions, hypotheses, abstracts, citation styles, NPS resources, and more!

CRITICAL THINKING

Strategic Reading, Level II: Critiquing a Text

Sandi Leavitt

Terrence Gargiulo[^]

- Tuesday, Jan. 28, 1500–1630—DKL 151

Level II teaches the "destroy" half of Dr. Zach Shore's "search and destroy" technique. This workshop prepares you for class discussions, argument papers, thesis writing, and more. Learn how to examine a text for its strengths and weaknesses, how authors build their arguments, and how to evaluate empirical and logical evidence. *Strategic Reading, Level I, is recommended but not required.*

Writing Persuasively: Logic, Evidence, and Style

Daniel Lehnherr[^]

- Friday, Jan. 23, 1000–1130—Zoom

Arguments are central to writing at the grad school level, and this workshop exposes the expert moves behind stealthy persuasion. You will learn how to logically organize a strong central argument, incorporate evidence, anticipate counterarguments, remedy any gaps in your defense, and ultimately convince your readers to trust your conclusions.

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Register at <https://nps.edu/web/gwc/wconline-redirect>

Questions? writingcenter@nps.edu

PLANNING AND ORGANIZATION

Think Before Your Write: Pre-Writing and Planning Techniques

Chloe Woida[^]

- Saturday, Jan. 11, 1100–1230—Zoom

When the prospect of writing a paper feels like sinking into an abyss of uncertainty, keep in mind that writing doesn't have to be a linear process. This workshop explores critical work you can do before you start stringing sentences together. Lean into your individual strengths and develop a personalized approach to generate, clarify, and organize your ideas.

THESIS WRITING

LaTeX Crash Course for Student Research

Mia Arshad

- Wednesday, Jan. 22, 1800–2000—Zoom

Does your professor want you to use LaTeX to write your thesis or dissertation? Are you passionate about beautifully formatted equations? Do you want to leave the formatting woes of Microsoft Word behind for a brighter tomorrow with LaTeX? In hour one, we introduce you to the fundamentals of LaTeX so that you are equipped with the skills needed to start using LaTeX immediately. In hour two, get help on your personal projects.

Professional Executive Summaries

Jasmine Mally[^]

- Tuesday, Jan. 28, 1200–1330—DKL 151

The quality of your executive summary 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 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.

Thesis Quick Start

Glen Koué

- Wednesday, Jan. 15, 1200–1250—Zoom
- Tuesday, Jan. 21, 1200–1250—Zoom

Is it time to begin your thesis? Are you unsure how to get started? 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.

RESEARCH AND CITATION

Citation Management with Zotero

Glen Koué

- Friday, Jan. 17, 1000–1150—Zoom
- Friday, Jan. 24, 1000–1150—Zoom

Learn how to use Zotero, a free tool for collecting, managing, and formatting 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 laptop! Workshop size is limited; **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

Chloe Woida[^]

- Friday, Jan. 31, 1200–1330—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 will give you the skills to confidently incorporate others' words, ideas, analyses, models, and images into your writing. You will gain experience summarizing, paraphrasing, and incorporating quotations from source material.

Research Quick Start

Jenna Hillhouse

- Tuesday, Jan. 14, 1200–1250—Zoom
- Wednesday, Jan. 22, 1200–1250—Zoom

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

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MECHANICS, GRAMMAR, AND STYLE

Revision Tips and Tricks

Michael Thomas[^]

- Wednesday, Feb. 6, 1200–1330—Zoom
- Thursday, Feb. 21, 1000–1130—Zoom

Revising your work can be challenging, but it can also be rewarding (even enjoyable!) as a process of reflection and discovery that enables your strongest, most effective writing to emerge. Come learn techniques to help you assess your draft's strengths and weaknesses, devise a strategy based on content needs and timeline, and ensure that your finished work meets expectations. You'll also get tips on reorganizing, identifying gaps, improving readability, and incorporating advisor feedback. Finally, you'll learn a few tricks for ensuring consistency and hitting word- and page-count limits by the deadline.

Strategies for Active-Voice Writing

Daniel Lehnherr[^]

- Wednesday, Nov. 13, 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 has its uses. This workshop will explain what passive voice looks like and why in most cases active constructions are a better choice. Activities will show you how to transform passive-voice sentences and 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.

Writing Essentials: Clarity and Concision

Alison Scharmota[^]

- Wednesday, Jan. 22, 1000–1130—DKL 151

This workshop teaches you how to strip away the fluff and get to the BLUF (Bottom Line Up Front)! Clarity and concision techniques can transform an overly complicated draft into a cleanly written final version. Learn to pare down your writing to essential words and ideas, key for academic papers and journal articles.

Writing Essentials: Strong Sentences

Jasmine Mally[^]

- Tuesday, Jan. 14, 1000–1100—DKL 151

To master sentences that are strong means to write with clarity, vigor, and grace. In this workshop, inspired by Strunk and White's *The Elements of Style*, a classic grammar how-to, you will be introduced to concepts that seasoned writers take for granted: thesis statements, topic sentences, paragraph structure, active voice, punctuation, and other elements essential to academic papers that are clear, to the point, and bold.

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Workshops by Date



Day	Date	Workshop	Time	Instructor	Room
Wednesday	1/8	Generative AI for Research and Writing	1100–1230	Woida [^]	DKL 151
Friday	1/10	Strategic Reading-I	1030–1200	Egerton [^]	GL 115
Saturday	1/11	Think Before You Write: Pre-writing & Planning	1100-1230	Woida [^]	Zoom
Tuesday	1/14	Writing Essentials: Strong Sentences	1000–1100	Mally [^]	DKL 151
Tuesday	1/14	Research Quick Start	1200–1250	Hillhouse	Zoom
Wednesday	1/15	Thesis Quick Start	1200–1250	Koué	Zoom
Wednesday	1/15	What (Nearly) Every Academic Paper Needs	1200–1300	Converse [^]	DKL 151
Thursday	1/16	Strategic Reading-I	1200-1330	Morneau [^]	DKL 151
Friday	1/17	Citation Management with Zotero	1000–1150	Koué	Zoom
Friday	1/17	What (Nearly) Every Academic Paper Needs	1200–1300	Callihan [^]	Zoom
Tuesday	1/21	Thesis Quick Start	1200–1250	Koué	Zoom
Tuesday	1/21	Strategic Reading for STEM	1500–1630	Morneau [^]	DKL 151
Wednesday	1/22	Writing Essentials: Clarity & Concision	1000–1130	Scharmota [^]	DKL 151
Wednesday	1/22	Research Quick Start	1200–1250	Hillhouse	Zoom
Wednesday	1/22	LaTeX Crash Course for Student Research	1800–2000	Arshad	Zoom
Thursday	1/23	Writing Persuasively: Logic, Evidence, and Style	1000–1130	Lehnherr [^]	Zoom
Thursday	1/23	Generative AI for Research and Writing	1200–1330	Woida [^]	Zoom
Friday	1/24	Citation Management with Zotero	1000–1150	Koué	Zoom
Saturday	1/25	Strategic Reading-I	1000–1130	Morneau [^]	Zoom
Tuesday	1/28	Professional Executive Summaries	1200-1330	Mally [^]	DKL 151
Tuesday	1/28	Strategic Reading-II: Critiquing a Text	1500–1630	Leavitt/Gargiulo	DKL 151
Wednesday	1/29	Strategies for Active-Voice Writing	1000–1130	Lehnherr [^]	Zoom
Friday	1/31	Paraphrasing and Quoting Like a Pro	1200–1330	Woida [^]	Zoom
Thursday	2/6	Revision Tips and Tricks	1200–1330	Thomas [^]	Zoom
Friday	2/21	Revision Tips and Tricks	1000–1130	Thomas [^]	Zoom

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