

# Writing Center FAQ

1. What is Writing Center?
  - a. The Writing Center is a free service that provides you with writing support for your written assignments.
  - b. Writing Center Consultants will help you with the HOCs (High Order Concerns) *first*:
    - i. Purpose of your paper
    - ii. Thesis
    - iii. Argument of your paper
    - iv. Support for your paper
    - v. Organization
    - vi. Transitions
    - vii. Clarity
    - viii. Introduction & Conclusion
  - c. Writing Center Consultants will help you with LOCs (Low Order Concerns) when all HOCs are addressed:
    - i. Editing skills (spelling, word choice, punctuation, etc.)
2. Will I have to do anything when I come to the Writing Center?
  - a. Writing Center Consultants are *not* responsible for writing your assignments for you. We're here to help, but, ultimately, *you* are responsible for the academic integrity of your work.
  - b. Writing Center Consultants are here to help you become a better writer, *not* rewrite your paper for you to produce the best possible grade.
3. How does the Writing Center help teach editing?
  - a. Writing Center Consultants encourage you to read through papers before bringing them to the Writing Center. Revising is a valuable skill, but it takes practice, which is why the Writing Center Consultants also encourage you to revise your work for better writing results and to increase your confidence. (Tip: Reading the paper out loud will help you to hear any mistakes in your writing.)
  - b. Writing Center Consultants will introduce free online sources that you can use to expand or strengthen knowledge about writing.
  - c. Writing Center Consultants will give you one or two examples on how to revise your paper. You can then use these examples to find and edit the rest of the paper on your own. If time allows, you will be asked to demonstrate understanding to the Writing Center Consultants. If you are out of time, you can schedule another appointment to review your findings.
  - d. Writing Center Consultants will explain what areas you can improve upon and teach you the editing skills to become a better writer.

4. What if I have writing anxiety (negative feelings that writers have when producing ideas and words)?
  - a. Sometimes people experience writing anxiety, and that is *okay*. You are not alone. All writers face this issue.
    - i. Writing Center Consultants are here to support and reassure you by using positive language/phrases to help you build confidence and focus on the task at hand.
  
5. How many times should I meet with the Writing Center?
  - a. Due to the timeframe of each appointment (30 minutes), Writing Center Consultants may not be able to address all the concerns they find in your paper. As a result, multiple appointments are highly recommended for assignments.
  - b. Expect at least a two-appointment method.
    - i. **Appointment One:** *Revising* with the student.
      1. You and the Writing Center Consultant will go over HOCs (see FAQ 1) of your assignment.
      2. The Writing Center will provide examples on how to revise your paper.
        - a. This will ensure that, over time, you will learn how to make corrections on your own based on the examples we show you.
      3. If you need to revise large portions of your paper, Writing Center Consultants will help you create an outline so you can effectively reorganize and complete your assignment.
      4. At the end of the appointment, you will be encouraged to make the necessary changes and sign up for a second appointment when said changes have been made.
    - ii. **Appointment Two:** *Editing* with the student.
      1. The Writing Center will place an emphasis on checking your assignment for clarity, grammar and punctuation.
      2. If necessary, you may be encouraged to make additional appointments.
  
6. So.... Why use the Writing Center?
  - a. When it comes to revising, it's always beneficial to have an extra pair of eyes. The Writing Center is here to help you catch errors you may miss on your own, as well as provide suggestions on how to revise/clarify/strengthen your writing.
  
7. How can I make an appointment with the Writing Center?
  - a. Go through the following on Northeast Community College's website: Student Experience > Support Services > Academic Support > Writing Center
  - b. Click the **Schedule a Writing Center Appointment** link and make an appointment.
  
8. What if I can't make an appointment?
  - a. Notify the Writing Center by emailing [wc@northeast.edu](mailto:wc@northeast.edu) or call (402) 844-7127.
  - b. You can also cancel/reschedule appointments online, by e-mail or by phone.