The Office of University Writing’s Graduate Writing Partners Program pairs graduate students with a Miller Writing Center consultant who will be their partner for the semester. Writing partners work one-on-one with graduate students to help them improve their writing abilities and become effective communicators in their respective disciplines. Participants will benefit from consistent, semester-long, individualized consultations with experienced graduate writing consultants. A collaborative needs assessment meeting including the graduate student, advisor/professor, writing consultant, and Office of University Writing faculty will help identify specific writing goals for the semester.

Our Goals

- To evaluate, respond to, and advance the writing goals of students and faculty by providing:
  - Needs assessments
  - Consistent, individualized consultations
- To collaborate actively with:
  - Graduate students
  - Faculty
  - Colleges, departments, and graduate programs
- To help students develop as confident, successful writers in their discipline by:
  - Discussing and practicing habits that lead to successful academic writing
  - Developing a productive writing process
  - Reflecting on strengths and weaknesses as writers
  - Practicing skills related to research writing, such as citations, formatting, and data management

Who Should Apply?

Graduate students interested in improving their writing skills and/or those working on their thesis, dissertation, or a piece for publication, and who are willing to commit to individualized, one-on-one writing consultations with a graduate writing consultant for a minimum of two hours per week for 16 weeks.

Expectations for Participants

Students must commit to attend two one-hour standing appointments each week for the entire semester (two hours per week for 16 weeks). Regular attendance is mandatory. Clients can miss two appointments without penalty. However, if the participant misses a third appointment, they will be dropped from the program.

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Interested graduate students will need to complete the online application here. We highly recommend submitting applications early to allow time for advisors or professors to complete the recommendation portion of the application prior to the deadline. The application requires you to submit:

- Name and email address of a professor or advisor who is willing to provide a recommendation on your behalf and who is willing to attend a half-hour needs assessment meeting at the beginning of the semester.
- Written statement (500 to 700 words) explaining your interest in the Graduate Writing Partners Program. The statement should address your:
  - Strengths, weaknesses, and concerns about writing in your academic discipline;
  - Current writing process;
  - Research, including the context within which your research fits, what you are researching, and what you have found or hope to find; and
  - What document(s) you hope to work on. (Note: You may work on more than one document, such as a conference paper, dissertation proposal, or thesis chapter. You must, however, make sure that the documents will require 16 weeks of intensive writing).

All applications are due on Sunday, November 17 at 11:59 p.m.
Advisor/Professor recommendation surveys are due by Sunday, December 1 at 11:59 p.m.
Applicants will be notified of their acceptance into the program by Friday, December 13 at 4:45 p.m.

Questions?

Contact the Office of University Writing at 334-844-7475 or email ouw@auburn.edu.