Resources for academic writing

Developed as part of the ICON writing retreat Fall 2023

Compiled by Kanchana Balasubramanian on Dec 1, 2023

Basics

- Nine basic ways to improve your style in academic writing
 - o A set of tips from the UC Berkley Student Learning Center
- Read strategically!
 - More writing tips from UC Berkley reading and organizing
- How to avoid ulcers, hernias, and other medical maladies: A guide to the writing process
 - o Stylistic advice for active and expressive writing
- Sentence-level concerns
 - o Getting into the nitty-gritty: sentence structure, clarity, and common mistakes
- What are some useful tools and resources to help you with academic writing tasks? (LinkedIn)
 - o Interactive LinkedIn writing guide (with sparse contributions)
- Intro to review literature
 - Tips and advice on literature review from UGA Libraries, focusing on search strategies, source types, and available catalogs
- Writing center consultants

Motivation to write

<u>National Center for Faculty Development & Diversity (NCFFD)</u> –Register with UGA credentials for access to NCFFD

- Writing group: 30 minutes writing every day 14-day challenge
- Recorded webinars in NCFFD
 - How to develop a daily writing practice
 - Moving from resistance to writing
 - o Writing as metaphor: Discovering a writing process that works for you
 - Building a publishing pipeline: Concrete strategies for increasing your writing productivity

Grant writing resources

• Webinar series: Everything You Need To Know About Grant Writing

Other forms of writing

Policy and governance

Abrams, J. (2022). Forest Policy and Governance in the United States: An Introduction. Taylor & Francis.

Ethnographic writing

Amitav Ghosh (2016). The great derangement: Climate Change and the Unthinkable. University of Chicago Press

De la Cadena, M. (2015). Earth beings: Ecologies of practice across Andean worlds. Duke University Press.

Best writing practices and strategies discussed at Fall 2023 writing retreat

- Creating a list of things/topics to write about
- Establish weekly plans and writing targets
- Set realistic goals, acknowledging that writing might take more time than anticipated
- Allocate dedicated thinking time for writing
- Don't wait for the perfect moment to write
- Recognize the value of time spent reading for writing purposes
- Embrace non-linear writing, jotting down thoughts as they come to mind
- Prioritize writing in the morning
- Utilize tools like audio readers and thesauruses
- Aim to write 500 words per day
- Foster accountability through writing buddies
- Seek feedback from diverse sources
- Review your writing after taking a break of 2-3 days

Writing session format

Goal: Clearly define and write the goal of your writing project using SMART (Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant, and Time-Bound) goals.

Subsequently, proceed with your writing session, and at the end, revisit the initial goal to assess the progress made during the session.