

Mission Statement



Our goal is to help students become independent, confident writers.

LEP academic counselors and tutors are dedicated to supporting students as they develop powerful writing skills. By using techniques based on their most effective learning styles, students build on their strengths to become excellent writers.

The LEP strives to help students meet the challenges of writing at the college level and acquiring skills they will continue to use in their careers.



Objectives

LEP counselors and tutors work with students on the following skills:

- ✔ Defining writing goals
- ✔ Reading textbooks and class materials for important information
- ✔ Developing ideas into well-written essays
- ✔ Creating strategies for completing work on time
- ✔ Utilizing DU and LEP support services
- ✔ Creating effective in-class exam strategies
- ✔ Becoming active, self-assured writers

Our objective is to encourage self-assurance based on solid writing skills.

Academic Counselors

Each student works closely with an LEP academic counselor. Students bring a variety of assignments to their sessions, providing an opportunity to practice various styles and to build on skills. Counselors work with students to develop and revise essays and to prepare for essay exams.

Counselors do not proofread or edit essays. Students participate fully in the process of revision, working with counselors to create a timeline for finishing assignments, identify areas to improve, and repair major errors.

Subject Tutors

The LEP provides tutors with specialties in writing. Many have advanced degrees in English and have taught college English for several years.

Tutors do not proofread or edit essays. Like counselors, they work with students on all aspects of writing development and offer feedback on drafts.

Tutors are available throughout the week each quarter. Students are welcome to work with tutors as much as necessary as they become independent, confident writers.



Writing Development

The LEP views writing as a process and therefore focuses on development rather than on editing.

Counselors and tutors provide opportunities for students to receive feedback on their efforts. Students engage in the process, from choosing a topic to writing and revising drafts to polishing the final draft.

Development involves practice, multiple drafts, and positive feedback.



Techniques

Students are usually visual, auditory, or hands-on learners. Counselors design activities during their sessions, depending on the student's specific learning style.

Students and counselors use a variety of techniques, including:

- ✔ Discussing and clarifying concepts
- ✔ Expressing ideas in the student's own words
- ✔ Speaking ideas into a tape recorder
- ✔ Reading drafts aloud
- ✔ Writing information on note cards
- ✔ Using colored note cards, pens, or folders to keep information organized
- ✔ Formulating/refining thesis statements
- ✔ Marking errors for future reference

Challenges

Writing difficulties can make classes frustrating. Students with learning disabilities often struggle to develop their ideas effectively in essays and exams. Keeping up with assigned reading and taking notes in the classroom can also be challenging.

Students with learning disabilities often experience many of the following difficulties:

- ✓ Getting information from books
- ✓ Accurately reading, without mixing letters or omitting words
- ✓ Reading as quickly as the class
- ✓ Taking accurate notes quickly
- ✓ Locating specific words or passages
- ✓ Deciphering notes on an overhead, blackboard, or in a notebook
- ✓ Retaining information
- ✓ Recalling information for exams
- ✓ Processing essay or exam questions
- ✓ Completing in-class essays thoroughly
- ✓ Reading aloud in class without anxiety



If you have further questions about writing support in the LEP, we'll be happy to speak with you in person or to send you additional information.

Contact Us:

Learning Effectiveness Program

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Writing Support

In the
Learning Effectiveness
Program



Philosophy

&

Practice

