

The Writing Center: A Sanctified Zone

At the Writing Center, we are committed to fostering a culture consistent with Lewis University's status as a sanctified zone. Guided by our Catholic identity and Lasallian heritage and inspired by the mission-based values of: Fidelity, Wisdom, Knowledge, Justice and Association, at Lewis University, all are welcome.

At the Writing Center, a sanctified zone, all students who visit and work at the Writing Center should feel comfortable, accepted, and respected. As a community of lifelong learners, we aim to meet students where they are in their academic journeys and aspire to accompany students as helpful writing mentors and peers. Our goal is to accept one another as individuals and empower each other through mentorship and collaboration.

Any behavior or treatment toward others that doesn't reflect these values will constitute a meeting with the Writing Center director and/or assistant director. Continued behavior may result in losing access to all Writing Center services.

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A Place for Writing, Conversation, and Collaboration

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The overall aim of the Writing Center is to help writers become better writers and to help students understand that writing, while often misunderstood as a private skill practiced and developed in solitude, is better understood as a social and creative activity practiced and developed in collaboration with others.

At the Writing Center

- Writers can discuss their writing with another student – a peer – who is both a proficient writer and reader and who is trained to effectively respond to writers about their writing
- Writers of all levels of ability and at all stages of the writing process are welcome
- We approach our sessions based on collaborative learning through questioning, conversation, and problem-solving
- Mentors and writers actively work together to help the writer improve both the project at hand and their writing abilities in general

Your Writing Mentor

The mentor acts as a real audience for the writer and their writing – to help identify what's “working” in the piece, in terms of global issues like content, organization, and coherence, as well as local issues like punctuation and word choice, in order to effectively meet the writer's purpose and audience. The mentor can help writers generate and organize ideas, create outlines and drafts, document research, and review conventions of grammar and other language and sentence-level issues.