

Greetings from the Writing Centre!

Are you interested in taking your writing skills to the next level? Do you have an assignment you would like to work on progressively throughout the semester with some writing support? Are you interested in gaining constructive feedback from your peers and Writing Centre staff?

The Writing Centre is currently looking for students to join our Winter 2012 writers' group. Interested student writers should be new to writing in a University setting, and eager to learn. Does this sound like you? If so, you are invited to sign up for our **Winter 2012 Writing Group!**

If you sign up for the writing group, you will have the opportunity to attend 6-8 weekly meetings with your like-minded peers over the course of the semester in a small, intimate group setting led by Writing Centre staff. The sessions will focus on creating a community and resources for writing skills development.

How does it work?

Each participant should choose a substantial assignment that is due at the end of the semester on which to concentrate, and we will progressively work through this assignment during our group sessions. We will also focus on a different aspect of writing development (including researching and editing) at each meeting.

The group will be facilitated by 1-2 writing centre staff members who will encourage thoughtful, non-judgmental responses to your written work in a safe atmosphere of mutual respect while engaging each other in conversations about writing, and the writing process. Focused topics will be led by the facilitators, who will be present every week.

Sessions will be approximately 1.5 hours long, and we'll keep the maximum number of students in the group to 12 to keep things small, and so that we can get to know each other's work.

What are the benefits? What can I get out of this?

- An understanding of how to work through all stages of an academic writing assignment from beginning to end.
- An opportunity to discuss and learn more about writing within a group of like-minded individuals.
- Contribute to the learning of your peers.
- Develop your research, writing and editing skills.

Who can Join?

- Any Ryerson undergraduate student can request to join the writing group, although the focus this semester will be on writers who are new to academic writing (i.e. mainly first and second year students, but not exclusively so), and who are comfortable with writing in English. **Note:** if your primary need is assistance related to writing in the English language, please visit www.ryerson.ca/els. This unit is better equipped to assist you.
- While there is no such thing as "attendance-taking" at the writing group, for your benefit and the benefit of your peers, we ask that you are able to commit to attending most (if not all) of our group sessions (date and time to be determined based on students' availability).

How do I join?

If you're interested in participating, please send us a message (300 word max please), with responses to the questions below before Friday, February 3, 2012 to: writingcentre@ryerson.ca. We will get back to you once a group with similar goals and availability has been formed.

1. Why are you interested in participating in the writing group?
2. What writing development topics would you like to be covered at the meetings?
3. What's your availability? Please suggest a few days and times when you are available to attend on a regular basis

Looking forward to hearing from you!
Writing Centre Staff members Sarah and Andrea