The Writing Fellows Program

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the Writing Fellows Program?
The Writing Fellows Program provides one-on-one writing instruction for students in all first-year Honors colloquia and other selected Honors courses. The program seeks to provide individualized writing instruction throughout the writing process, from prewriting and drafting through the revision process.

Who are the Writing Fellows?
The Writing Fellows are upperclassmen who have been selected through a competitive application process. Not all Writing Fellows are English majors: they are selected from many disciplines on the basis of their writing skills and their desire to help other students improve those skills. Writing Fellows have been trained in a semester-long seminar in the theory and practice of tutoring academic writing.

What DOES a Writing Fellow do?
Writing Fellows are tutors, not teaching assistants: they are trained undergraduates who can help you with generating ideas, developing a thesis, improving your paper’s organization, sharpening its focus, and the other elements of academic writing. The specifics of your interaction with your Writing Fellow will be explained by your professor, as it varies depending on the class.

What DOESN’T a Writing Fellow do?
A Writing Fellow does not proofread, does not have the authority to grant extensions, and they do not assign grades, nor will they comment on your received grades. Since your Writing Fellow does not attend class with you and is not required to read the material, they cannot be expected to edit for/comment on the content of your paper. All these questions should be directed to your professor.

What should I expect in my conference?
Your Writing Fellows conference provides an excellent opportunity to discuss your own writing in detail. No matter your level of writing ability, your Writing Fellow will be able to assist you in making you a better writer. Most conferences last about 30 minutes.

What does my Writing Fellow expect from me?
You are expected to show up for each conference on time and prepared to discuss your writing. Please bring all related materials with you—your essay, notes, assignment handout, etc. All papers should be typed and double-spaced.

For more information about the Writing Fellows Program, please visit http://sites.udel.edu/honors/writing-fellows/