Writing and Learning Center - FAQs

What We Do:

The Writing and Learning Center offers personalized, student-centered academic support to all Carolina students.

Thousands of students visit voluntarily to learn to write better, study better, and make the most of their time on campus.

Through one-on-one coaching sessions and small group sessions, students build on their strengths, problem solve, and gain the confidence to thrive at Carolina.

As students say, “Success happens here” at the Writing and Learning Center.

FAQs:

Writing and Learning Center Overview

What services do you offer?

A. We offer a wide variety of services. Students may take advantage of any and all of these offerings:
   ○ Writing coaching
   ○ Academic coaching
   ○ Peer tutoring in over 100 courses
   ○ ADHD/LD support
   ○ STEM support
   ○ English Language support
   ○ Workshops and events

Who can make an appointment with a Writing Coach, Academic Coach or Peer Tutor?

A. All degree-seeking undergraduates at UNC-Chapel Hill may make appointments for individual coaching. Undergraduates can make up to two writing coaching appointments per week and up to two academic coaching appointments per week. All appointments can be made in advance via our websites.
**Writing Center**

**Who are the coaches at the Writing Center?**

A. Both graduate students and undergraduates serve as writing coaches at the Writing Center. Coaches come from departments across campus and receive extensive training from Writing Center professional staff.

**What kind of help will I receive from a writing coach?**

A. Writing Center coaches will discuss your writing assignments with you and share strategies for approaching a topic, organizing a paper, developing your style, or correcting recurring errors. Writing coaches may also direct you to other resources for further assistance.

**What is involved in an on-site visit to the Writing Center?**

A. Appointments in the Writing Center are 45-minute conversations with a writing coach about your writing. The coach will read through your paper with you, answer your questions, and work with you to strengthen your paper and your skills as a writer. You and the coach may discuss any aspect of your writing project or process.

**How does online writing coaching work?**

A. To use our online service, simply visit our website (writingcenter.unc.edu) and click on “submit a draft.” You will upload your writing sample directly to the online system and fill out a questionnaire where you describe what you would like for your coach to focus on. Your coach will then review your writing and send you a Conference Summary where they provide their feedback and suggest strategies.

**What kind of writing can I bring to the Writing Center?**

A. You can bring any sort of writing to either the online or on-site Writing Center. We give priority to academic work, but we also can provide assistance with application essays, grant proposals, or other writing. In fact, you don’t even need to have a draft to use our service! Your coach will discuss ideas and strategies about how to start your writing project.
Learning Center

Who uses the Learning Center?

A. Students visit the Learning Center when they want to improve time management, strengthen study habits, connect with course support for STEM classes, talk with ADHD/LD specialists, or just talk with a coach about transitioning to Carolina.

What happens in a session with an academic coach?

A. An academic coach helps you develop better learning skills, such as taking effective lecture notes, preparing for tests, managing time efficiently, and getting the most from your assigned readings. Coaches work with students at all levels, whether they are trying to move their grades up from B's to A's or seriously struggling with a particular course. We work collaboratively with you, helping you figure out which learning strategies fit best. An academic coach can help you set goals and develop better habits so that you can achieve your goals. Goals can focus on academics, but can include broader themes as well, such as the desire to create a more balanced life.

Who are the Peer Tutors and what happens in a tutoring session?

A. Our tutors are your peers; undergraduate students who received high grades in the classes they tutor and who are trained in effective tutoring strategies prior to working with students. When you meet with a Peer Tutor, you will focus on a specific assignment or concept from your course. The best tutoring experiences happen when a student comes to a session prepared with specific questions. Tutors respond to questions and help fill in the gaps and/or clarify a concept. Tutors also provide guidance for students as they work through problems.

Which subjects do Peer Tutors cover?

A. Each semester, Peer Tutors cover over 100 courses. To see if there is a tutor(s) for the course in which you need assistance, please check our website at learningcenter.unc.edu

Tell me about your workshops and programs.

A. The Learning Center hosts a variety of programs each semester. Coaching groups allow students to join their peers in discussions about academic success
topics, such as school-life balance, reading strategies, or ADHD / LD peer support. We also offer weekly Biology, Chemistry and Math Learning Groups, which serve as review sessions for Carolina’s largest undergraduate STEM courses. Finally, we host study camps several times each semester, such as the Long Night Against Procrastination and Finals Boot Camp. These camps offer students a dedicated space to focus on their assignments and the opportunity to receive support from Learning Center staff.