UNH Connors Writing Center
Graduate Student Services

We understand that writing a graduate thesis, dissertation or other major project is challenging and differs from undergraduate work. To cater to the unique needs of graduate study, we offer dissertation/thesis coaches to assist graduate students with the writing process of longer projects.

We should point out that any number of one-hour writing center visits cannot substitute for consultation with an advisor or the services of a dedicated editor or reading group. Therefore, our services should be considered supplemental to the dissertation or thesis process, and aim to support students as they wrestle with issues such as time management, procrastination, anxiety, and organization.

What to expect:

Graduate students working on long projects will have an initial meeting with the Director of the Writing Center. This meeting will provide an opportunity to talk about student goals, timelines, and specific writing concerns. It will also provide the information necessary for graduate students to be matched with appropriate writing coaches.

Sessions with the writing coach may be scheduled in advance, up to eight visits per semester. The summer session counts as its own semester.

The student and dissertation/thesis coach may address

- the writing process
- self-editing skills
- weekly work schedules
- time management
- structural and organizational concerns
- argumentation
- anxiety-reducing techniques

Dissertation/thesis coaches will act as sounding boards, brainstorming partners, and informed readers. While graduate students may use these sessions as they see fit, proofreading and copy editing are not among the functions the Writing Center will provide. If a graduate student wishes sustained editing to be done on his or her behalf, we can provide a list of professional editors.

Meaghan Elliott Dittrich
Director, Connors Writing Center
Meaghan.Dittrich@unh.edu
Date: ________________

First Name: ____________________________________________________________

Last Name: _____________________________________________________________

Please circle: Masters or Doctorate

Program Name: __________________________________________________________

Telephone: ___________________   Email: _________________________________

Days/Times when you are available: ________________________________________

Dissertation/Thesis Topic and Title: __________________________________________

What stage are you at in the dissertation/thesis process?

_______________________________________________________________________

_______________________________________________________________________

What issues/concerns do you have about your writing process or your project?

_______________________________________________________________________

_______________________________________________________________________

By the end of your eight sessions, what would you like to have accomplished (i.e. better time management, improved self-revision strategies, lower anxiety)?

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_______________________________________________________________________

I understand that this service does not replace the help of an advisor or editor and does not guarantee the successful completion of a thesis, dissertation, or other writing project. I understand that I maintain sole responsibility for the content and completion of my thesis/dissertation/project. I agree to the terms of the Connors Writing Center Graduate Student Services and will schedule no more than 8 sessions per semester.

Signed: ___________________________   Date: ___________________________