Writing Your Way In: Tools for Success with College Writing

A Summit Leadership Badge

Are you making a challenging transition in your writing?

High school writing → College writing
Introductory-level courses → Upper-level courses
One discipline → A different discipline
Low grades → An improved GPA
Time away from school → Re-entry to school

No matter where you are in terms of writing, the “Writing Your Way In” badge program at SUNY Potsdam can help you to build practical knowledge and skills you’ll use right away.

Writing is a craft. Like any craft, writing has tools, it requires time to master, and it can be learned. One way you can learn is to join short workshops or do individual coaching sessions with peer tutors. Both can count towards your badge completion – or do them outside of the badge.

With the guidance of a mentor, students working toward the badge will take part in:

- Peer tutoring,
- Writing workshops, and
- Reflection on connections to the workplace.

Next steps:

- To meet with a badge mentor and start the badge, email Eudora Watson, watsonea@potsdam.edu.
- To book a Writers’ Block session with a peer tutor, fill in the form on Writers’ Block “Make an Appointment” web page.
- To attend a workshop, search Writers’ Block on GetInvolved -- or book a virtual version through the Writers’ Block “Make an Appointment” web page. Look for Brainstorming for Success, Rewrite for Success, and Edit for Success workshops.
- Follow the SUNY Potsdam Writers’ Block on Instagram/Facebook. Reach us at wblock@potsdam.edu.

For More Information: about this Badge: Eudora Watson, Writing Specialist, at watsonea@potsdam.edu

To learn more about Summit Leadership: https://getinvolved.potsdam.edu/organization/summit
Writing Your Way In: Tools for Success with College Writing

Whether you are making the shift from high school to college writing or from introductory level college courses to upper-level courses, you may find the new expectations challenging. Your work on this badge will help you build a writers’ toolbox of habits and skills that will help you meet that challenge.

This badge has been developed based on the belief that writing is a craft. Like any craft, it has tools, it requires time to master, and it can be taught. No matter where you are in terms of your writing, working on this badge will help you build practical knowledge and skills that you’ll be able to put to use right away.

Through work on this badge, you will:

- Learn strategies for assessing your own written work
- Increase your awareness of specific tools, approaches, and resources related to crafting college-level work
- Deepen your understanding of how to get the most out of the Writers’ Block peer-tutoring sessions
- Improve your ability to use verbal and written reflection to communicate understanding of the quality of works-in-progress
- Reflect on how what you are learning might be used in the workplace

Requirements for Completion:

- **Orientation session**: Students meet with a Badge Mentor (assigned based on the student’s area of study) to review badge requirements and discuss the student’s writing needs.
- **Complete 2-3 writing workshops**: Students select workshops based on need and interest, complete all of the activities during the workshop, and complete a brief post-session reflection.
  - Search for the following workshops on the Get Involved events page to see when they are available.
  - Join a public workshop in person or book an individual virtual meeting through the Writers’ Block webpage. Spring Workshops from the “Writing for Growth and Advocacy” Badge may be substituted with prior approval from the Badge Mentor.
    1. Brainstorming for Success
    2. Rewrite for Success
    3. Edit for Success
- **Participate in 3 - 4 Writers’ Block sessions as tutee**:
  - WB tutors who are completing the badge themselves may substitute 2 sessions in which they tutor students in the “Writing Your Way In” badge or the WW/TW program and reflect on those sessions.
- **Exit Interview**: The student will present during the Exit Interview and take part in a discussion about growth and goals. Exit Interviews may be individual or students may choose to include peers to attend the presentation as audience or active participants.

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- As they near fulfillment of the Badge requirements, students will schedule a pre-Exit Interview meeting with their Badge mentor to assess progress on the required 8 hours of badge participation and plan their Exit Interview presentation.

For More Information:

- Please Contact: Eudora Watson, Writing Specialist, School of Education and Professional Studies at watsonea@potsdam.edu. (Note: Badge is open to ALL SUNY POTSDAM STUDENTS!)