Mastering the Writing Project

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November 17, 2018
9:00am – 4:30pm

Do you have an idea or outline for a paper, an unpublished manuscript, a community report, or a policy brief that you’d like to revise? The goal of this day-long workshop is to help you move forward with that writing project.

Whether you are a student, a new or experienced academic, a community-based researcher, or a policy maker, this workshop will help you build your writing skills. How? We begin with the structural dimensions of a writing product – a solid introduction, body, conclusion – and then add your unique authorial voice to tell a compelling and scholarly story. That means learning effective strategies for:

- Choosing a significant and worthy topic or problem to write about
- Arguing the importance, timeliness, or relevance of addressing the problem
- Evoking audience interest in the problem (adding the sparkle or the hook)
- Isolating and articulating a key message or central argument
- Organizing a coherent argument that focuses on the key message
- Articulating the main message with a specific target audience in mind
- Crafting a conclusion that drives the academic or political conversation forward
- Selling the product with a compelling and concise title, abstract, and introduction
- Finding your unique authorial voice

To get the most out of the day, bring a laptop and a willingness to actively engage in independent and small group activities with a goal of outlining, developing or polishing your specific writing project.

Readings

