

WSSR WORKSHOPS ON SOCIAL SCIENCE RESEARCH

Mastering the Writing Project

Dr. Diana L. Gustafson

Professor, Memorial University

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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Do you have an idea or outline for a paper, an unpublished manuscript, a community report, or a policy brief that you'd like to revise?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

- Badenhorst, C. (2010). *Productive writing: Becoming a prolific academic writer*. Pretoria, South Africa: Van Schaik Publ.
- Bigby, C. (2015). Preparing manuscripts that report qualitative research: Avoiding common pitfalls and illegitimate questions. *Australian Social Work*, 68(3), 384–391.
- Fisher, P.G., Goodman, D.M., & Long, S.S. (2017). Getting published: A primer on manuscript writing and the editorial process. *The Journal of Pediatrics*, 185, 241–244.
- Jalongo, M.R., & Saracho, O.N. (2015). *Writing for publication: Transitions and tools that support scholars' success*. Springer: Switzerland
- Available at Concordia here: <https://0-link-springer-com.mercury.concordia.ca/book/10.1007%2F978-3-319-31650-5>



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Lingard, L. (2015). Joining a conversation: The problem/gap/hook heuristic. *Perspectives on Medical Education*, 4(5), pp.252-253.

Roush, K. (2017). Writing your manuscript: Structure and style. *American Journal of Nursing*, 117(4), 55-61.

Workshops on Social Science Research (WSSR)
1455 de Maisonneuve W. – H1225.30
Montreal, Qc H3G 1M8
Telephone: 514-848-2424 x7854, x5473

