

Duke University Writing Studio E-News **Volume 1, Issue 3, April 2007**

The E-News is a monthly newsletter featuring writing-related questions and upcoming events at the Writing Studio. For more information about the Writing Studio, visit our website at <http://uwp.aas.duke.edu/wstudio/>. You can also reserve Face-to-Face or E-Tutor appointments with writing tutors in advance on our website. Various writing workshops are scheduled each month; you can either sign up in advance or drop in.

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1 Quick Tips Available at Pop In Mini-Sessions: Drop In or Call 684-6796

When: 4 – 7 p.m. on Wed., April 25; Thurs., April 26; Mon., April 30; & Tues., May 1

Where: 112 Perkins (West) and 2nd floor Lilly right side (East)

Why: To get fast answers to last-minute questions!

Scenario: It's 4:30 in the afternoon. Your final paper is due at 5:00 sharp, hard-copy, in the TA's hands—no exceptions. Every hair on your head is pointed in a unique direction. You haven't slept in two days, you're on your sixth *Jolt cola*, and you can't remember how to cite a quote within a quote. "But this paper has to be perfect!" you remind yourself. It's 30% of your final grade. What do you do now!?

Or you have other questions:

- You need formatting help with your Works Cited page
- You have a grammar question
- You want a quick response to an already heavily revised paragraph
- Etc...

Solution: If it's **April 25, 26, 30 or May 1**, between the hours of **4 – 7 p.m.**, think of the Duke University Writing Studio! We have resources for you: style and grammar handbooks, resource handouts, and helpful and experienced tutors—all available to you on a first-come, first-serve basis in both Perkins and Lilly libraries. Drop in or call 684-6796 with your quick question(s). No appointment necessary.

2 Scheduling An Appointment During the End-of-Semester Crunch

With the end of the semester drawing near, appointments will at times be in short supply. If you find the calendar fully booked for the times you want, be sure not to give up hope. Keep in mind that cancellations occur regularly. If you are unable to schedule an appointment, try one of the following strategies:

1. Check the appointment calendar frequently for empty slots due to cancellations.
2. Try for a walk-in appointment by stopping at one of the Studio locations just after the top of any hour during regular Studio hours. You can then wait to see if a scheduled appointment fails to arrive or cancels at the last minute.

3 Summer Tutoring at the Writing Studio

This summer, the Writing Studio is open for business. Whether you're on campus, in your hometown, or out of the country, we'll be here to help you with any kind of writing—academic writing, application essays, cover letters, or creative projects — at any stage of the writing process.

Tutors will be on duty during both summer sessions, from the time classes begin through the end of exams, providing the same expertise and perspective students expect during the regular school term. Both face-to-face and E-Tutor appointments are available, and drop-in appointments are welcome during our limited summer hours. At Duke summer school? Since summer courses move at a rapid pace, students are encouraged to sign up for an appointment as soon they receive a writing assignment. You may also want to consider a writing tutor's advice for personal statements and summer creative writing projects.

Not in Durham this summer? The Writing Studio can still help with your writing projects. Our new E-Tutor service allows you to sign up for an appointment, submit a draft, and receive prompt feedback online, no matter where the summer finds you. If you haven't had occasion to try out E-Tutor yet, now may be the perfect opportunity. More information about the service is available at <http://uwp.aas.duke.edu/wstudio/schedule/etutorfaqs.html>.

4 Upcoming Workshops and Writing Group Schedule

APRIL WORKSHOPS

STYLE: CONCISENESS, COHESION, AND COHERENCE

Sunday, April 1: 7 PM - 8 PM
Lilly Library Training Room (East)

EDITING FOR CLARITY AND PROOFREADING FOR CORRECTNESS

Thursday, April 5: 3 PM - 4 PM

112 Perkins Library (West)
Sunday, April 8: 7 PM - 8 PM
Lilly Library Training Room (East)

AVOIDING PLAGIARISM: WORKING WITH SOURCES

Thursday, April 12: 3 PM - 4 PM
112 Perkins Library (West)
Sunday, April 15: 7 PM - 8 PM
Lilly Library Training Room (East)

To sign up for a workshop, visit the WS website at <http://uwp.aas.duke.edu/wstudio> and select "Schedule An Appointment."

WRITING GROUPS

CREATIVE WRITING: TBA. Contact Facilitator: Rod Frey (r1f5@duke.edu)

SCI FI/FANTASY: Thursdays from 1 - 2:45 PM in Trinity Café. Facilitator: Rabia Gregory (rabiag@email.unc.edu).

ESL READING GROUP: Thursdays at 4:30 PM in the Perk/Von der Heyden Pavilion. Facilitator: Jayoung Min (jm12@duke.edu)

DISSERTATION GROUP: TBA. Contact Facilitator: Richard Musselwhite (rmusselw@duke.edu)

5 Featured Handout of the Month: Using Articles Correctly

The end of the semester is just over a month away and final paper due dates are looming. If you haven't already done so, you will soon be completing your first drafts. You might lean back in your chair, take a deep breath, and realize you still have enough time to make some changes. But where do you start? One way is to prioritize your REVISION STRATEGIES based on a system of higher-order and lower-order concerns. Consult the hyperlinks in our handout if you would like more detailed information on a critical topic.

<http://uwp.aas.duke.edu/wstudio/resources/documents/revision.pdf>

6 Grammar Tip of the Month: Use pronouns carefully!

Pronouns and antecedents (the noun they take the place of or refer back to) should:

1. Agree in number. If the pronoun takes the place of a singular noun, you have to use a singular pronoun.

If students park cars on campus, they have to buy parking stickers.

NOT: If a student parks a car on campus, they have to buy a parking sticker.

2. Refer clearly to a specific noun. Don't be vague or ambiguous.

NOT: When the motorcycle hit the tree, it was not damaged.

(Is "it" the motorcycle or the tree?)

NOT: I don't think they should show violence on TV.

(Who are "they"?)

For other helpful grammar tips, check out the Resources page on the WS website!

<http://uwp.aas.duke.edu/wstudio/resources/editing.html>

7 Quotation of the Month

Words move, music moves
Only in time; but that which is only living
Can only die. Words, after speech, reach
Into the silence. Only by the form, the pattern,
Can words or music reach
The stillness, as a Chinese jar still
Moves perpetually in its stillness.
Not the stillness of the violin, while the note lasts,
Not that only, but the co-existence,
Or say that the end precedes the beginning,
And the end and the beginning were always there
Before the beginning and after the end.
And all is always now. Words strain,
Crack and sometimes break, under the burden,
Under the tension, slip, slide, perish,
Decay with imprecision, will not stay in place,
Will not stay still.

-T.S. Eliot, "Four Quartets"

To suggest quotations for future newsletters, email us at wstudio@aas.duke.edu.

To unsubscribe from the DWS list serv, email us at wstudio@aas.duke.edu with "unsubscribe" as the subject.