

Peer Tutoring FAQs

How can a peer tutor help me?

- A tutor can help you gain new perspectives on your learning by asking questions, explaining concepts in different ways, sharing examples and resources, helping connect prior knowledge to current classes, suggesting study strategies, providing encouragement, and more.

What DON'T tutors do?

- Tutors will not do the work for you, edit, correct, fix, or tell you what to write. They cannot provide feedback about grades, guarantee success in a class, or complete homework assignments or take-home exams.

How can I prepare for my tutoring sessions?

- Bring your text and class notes, assignment, handouts, calculator, flash drive, and your own work. Complete the assignment to the best of your ability before meeting with a tutor.
- Write down specific questions ahead of time.
- Come to tutoring a few days before the assignment is due.
- Be an active participant during the session: ask questions and take notes.

What kind of writing help can I get? Will a writing tutor proofread and edit my paper?

- Tutors will scan your paper and determine whether mechanics limit their ability to understand the writing sample. If so, they will pick out **one** example of as many mechanical problems as time allows. Tutors will indicate their general impression of which two or three "lower order concerns" pose the greatest challenges to you, and they will highlight multiple examples of these errors without correcting them.
- Subsequently, tutors will address organizational issues and the strength of the thesis statement and supporting arguments. If tutors are able to begin working on organization and thematic topics right away, they will highlight mechanical errors as they read and confirm that you understand the nature of these errors. You will receive a Tutor Review form after your consultation. This form documents the tutor's recommendations for improving the paper and for advancing your writing skills in general.
- Tutoring sessions will last no more than 25 minutes when other students are waiting to meet with a writing tutor. You and the tutor may not have time to process every page in the piece under review. You are welcome to drop in another evening to continue working on your paper. **Tutors will not proofread papers, i.e. tutors will not find and mark all errors.**

How can I prepare for my writing tutoring sessions?

- A printed copy of your paper is required for each drop-in session in the Writing Lab. When possible, we recommend you bring two printed copies so that you can review your work alongside the tutor. Bring your assignment sheet, style guide, and any other relevant materials with you to your tutoring session. Prepare specific questions prior to your visit to the Writing Lab so that you and the tutor can work together to address your particular concerns. You will work with one tutor, and you must remain present with that tutor throughout your session.

Do you provide referrals for private tutors? Can I hire your tutors for private tutoring?

- Sorry, we are unable to provide referrals or facilitate arrangements for private tutoring.