

What to Expect in Your Tutorial

Setting

Tutorials are held in the Writing & Speaking Center, which is located on the first floor of the main Library on the pond side of the building. There is a waiting area with a white bench where you can hang out if you arrive a bit early, and your tutorial will be in one of our two tutoring rooms. The tutor will invite you into the tutoring room at your appointment start time.

People

You can generally select the peer tutor with whom you want to work when you schedule your appointment, but you may be limited by who is scheduled to tutor when you are available. All of the peer tutors are students who are trained to help with any step of the process for a variety of writing and speaking assignments.

What You Should Bring

- Your assignment and any relevant guidelines (you can also upload these as attachments to your appointment form)
- Comments from your professor (if relevant)
- Your draft (or whatever you have so far—outline, notes, etc.)
- Questions for the tutor or an idea of what you would like the peer tutor to assist you with in your tutorial

Available Materials

- Whiteboard, markers, and eraser
- Table and chairs
- Pencils
- Highlighters
- Post-its
- Scrap Paper
- Various writing handouts
- Tissues
- Hand sanitizer
- Fidget toys

Common Tutoring Activities

- Discussing what you want to work on and where you are in the process
- Reading over an assignment (silently or aloud)
- Reading over a draft (usually aloud)
- Stopping periodically to discuss concerns and options for revision
- Taking notes (you can take your own or ask the tutor to take some for you)
- Making small revisions during the session and plans to make larger changes later
- The tutor modeling something, such as a sentence-level correction, before having you try it

Things the Tutor Might Ask You

- To identify parts of the draft you want to focus on
- To prioritize your concerns (i.e., choose what you want to work on first, second, etc.)
- To clarify what you do and do not understand
- To provide background information about the class or assignment
- To expand on ideas related to your draft
- To model something they demonstrate

Things You May Want to Ask the Tutor

- To take notes for you
- To read your draft aloud for you
- To slow down
- To repeat something
- To provide examples
- To take a break
- To skip ahead to another concern
- To reschedule for another time