



ANNUAL REPORT

William & Mary
Writing Resources Center
2022-23



Our Mission



Students who come to W&M participate in a rigorous liberal arts curriculum that cultivates their critical thinking, problem solving, and communication skills. The W&M Writing Resources Center (WRC) supports student progress with programming, resources, and one-on-one support to help them become more effective and confident writers and communicators.

"Henry was tremendously helpful. He did not just give me the answers, but instead helped me think through how I could improve my paper for myself. Since our meeting I have used the writing tips he provided multiple times."



Our Accomplishments

In the 2022-23 academic year, we:

- Consulted with 801 students in 1,724 one-on-one sessions.
- Received an "excellent" or "very good" rating from 94% of student clients.
- Provided 22 class visits by WRC consultants to introduce students to the writing center. These visits put us in touch with 562 undergraduate students.
- Facilitated 25 workshops on writing or communication topics for classes or student groups such as the Sharpe Scholars, the Posse Scholars, and the Chemistry Mentors Program. These workshops put us in touch with 495 undergraduate students.
- Recruited 16 students into our 2023 trainee cohort.
- Trained writing consultants in all three A&S writing centers: WRC, Graduate Writing Resources Center (GWRC), and Clem History Writing Center (HWC).
- Launched a new course -- WRIT 401 *Multilingual Writers in the Writing Center* -- to complement our introductory consultant training course WRIT 399 *College Writing: Theory and Practice*.
- Hosted the annual Virginia Tutor Collaboration Day (TuColla-VA).
- Attended the Southeastern Writing Center Association annual conference in Memphis.
- Partnered with Swem Library and The Charles Center to support honors thesis writers during the Honors Thesis Writer's Retreat, and to support summer undergraduate research with relevant workshops.
- Collaborated with Office of Undergraduate Academic Affairs (OUAA) National Fellowships Program to support students applying for national scholarships.
- Partnered with the OUAA, Health Professions Advising, and the Development Office to provide summer writing support for students applying to medical school and other health professions programs.





Programming for Students



The one-on-one consultation is the WRC’s core student service. Trained peer consultants at the WRC provide individual support for any writing or communication assignment: academic essays, lab reports, presentations, storyboards, personal statements, creative writing, scripts, applications, and more. Our consultants are W&M students who come from a variety of disciplines and can help their peers at any stage of the writing or communication process—from idea, to draft, to revision. Writers from all disciplines and skill levels are welcome to make an appointment for a 50-minute session.

While each session is focused on a particular assignment, the broader goal is to teach students skills they can use in all their writing and communication tasks.



Support for the Curriculum

W&M's College Curriculum (COLL) asks students to develop skills in traditional academic writing as well as in contemporary forms of communication that incorporate images, sounds, data, animations, performances, and so on. In their COLL 150 courses, students learn how to craft scholarly writing using research sources. In COLL 100 courses, they communicate complex ideas in other modes: research posters, infographics, web pages, data visualizations, oral presentations, and so on.

To support students working in such varied modes across the curriculum, the WRC regularly augments student resources and staff training.

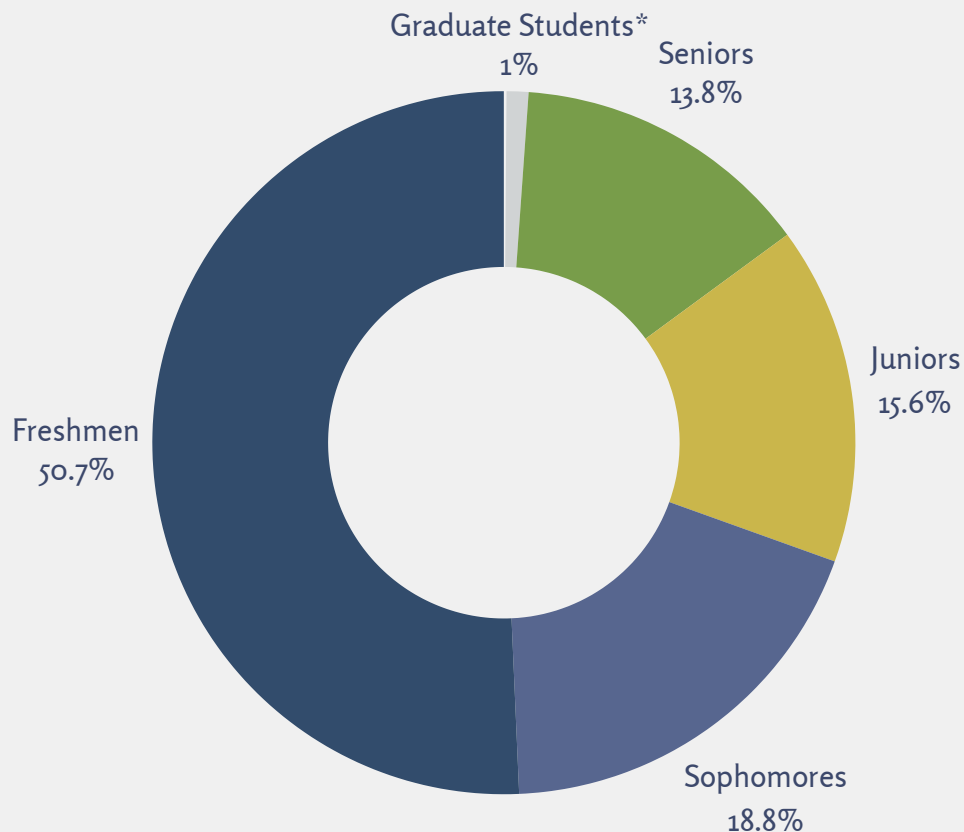
In Spring 2023, consultant trainees in the WRIT 399 course were introduced to key concepts in multimodal composition and to discipline-specific writing conventions within varied discourse communities. Guest speaker Len Neighbors of the Speech Program also delivered a lesson on public speaking.



Student Clients in the WRC

Client Demographics

In 2022-23, 801 individuals made appointments at the WRC. Here's who they were:



Transfer students made up 11% of clients (92 students), while international students made up 8% of clients (66 students). 16 clients were military or veteran students. Some 13% of clients (108 students) identified a language other than English as their first or home language.

*Most graduate student clients make appointments with the Graduate Writing Resources Center (GWRC), which is staffed by graduate students. The GWRC had 107 appointments with 49 individual clients in 2022-23.

Our Student Employees

Peer Consulting Staff

In 2022-23, we had a staff of 35 peer consultants in the Fall semester, adding an additional 16 trainees in the Spring. Our staff are sophomores, juniors, and seniors from a variety of majors

Social Class

5 Sophomores

18 Juniors

11 Seniors

Majors

12 Humanities

15 Social Sciences

8 Math/Science

What Peer Consultants Learn

The WRC trains and mentors undergraduate peer consultants to provide high-quality, individual consultations. Students who work in the WRC learn valuable academic and professional skills. For example, our student employees will:*

- Gain practical experience, and demonstrate personal accountability, effective work habits, and time management skills.
- Build collaborative relationships with colleagues and clients.
- Work successfully within a team structure.
- Exercise sound reasoning to analyze issues, make decisions, and overcome problems.
- Demonstrate the ability to clearly express ideas to others in written and oral forms.
- Use interpersonal skills to coach and develop others.
- Demonstrate openness, inclusiveness, sensitivity, and the ability to interact respectfully with all people.

*List adapted from the [NACE Career Competencies](#).



Conclusion

The Writing Resources Center offers a supportive environment where both student clients and student employees can develop academic and professional skills, becoming better writers, speakers, collaborators, and colleagues. We are proud of our program and of the people who make it work.



“Corina did a really good job with my consultation. She gave great ideas on how to improve my writing, and made me want to visit the writing center again.”





Thank You.



Questions?
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