PREPARING FOR A SESSION AT THE WRITING PLACE

What you can do
You can visit the Writing Place at any point in the writing process: as soon as when you receive an assignment through a review of the final draft. Before you come to the Writing Place, spend a few minutes planning your agenda. Ask yourself these questions:

• What do you want the Writing Place session to help you do?
  o Select a topic?
  o Decide what approach to take?
  o Finish writing a draft?
  o Revise and edit a draft you’ve already written?
• What do you want the Writing Place consultant to pay attention to in your draft?
• What do you like about the paper so far?
• What do you think needs more work?
• Is there a specific problem that you are working on solving? What is it?

What a writing place consultant can do
Writing Place tutors can help you in the following ways:

• Help you assess where you are in the writing process, and what your options are for the next steps
• Tell you what an experienced reader found interesting, effective, confusing, contradictory, or difficult in your draft
• Help you define the point of a section or the whole paper more sharply by asking you questions and listening to your answers
• Point out patterns in your writing that you may wish to modify: organization of points, sentence patterns, word choice, tone, etc.
• Offer suggestions for revision, based on a discussion of what both of you think the paper needs
• Direct you to resources that can help you complete the assignment: library information, style sheets and formatting instructions, other information on writing
• Invite you to come back again to discuss your revisions

What a writing place consultant cannot do

• Tell you how to write your paper
• Predict what grade your paper will get
• Find and change all the problems in a draft