

OCTOBER 2024

WC Newsletter

ISSUE NO. TWO

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE MT.SAC WRITING CENTER

Mid-Semester Updates!

Hello, Mt. SAC Faculty!

We hope your Fall semester is going great as we approach the middle of the semester! Here are some updates from the Writing Center including: last month's Banned Books event, some DLA tips for incorporating them into your curriculum, and



Please enjoy our 2nd issue of the Fall 2024 semester!

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NO TIME
FOR APPT!?



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NEED HELP
ON YOUR
PAPERS!?

2nd annual
Spooky Story Contest

Banned Books Week Carnival: Sept. 24th, 2024!

We want to thank the Faculty and Staff who supported our Banned Books Week event last month by stopping by and sharing this event with students. We had a great turn out with over 100 attendees! There were snacks and popcorn provided for attendees, as well as games, such as Banned Book Famous Quote Trivia, Matching of Banned Book titles to their book cover, and Banned Book Bingo. There were also fun and crafty activities available, like Banned Bookmark coloring stations, Banned Book themed Temporary Tattoos, and a photo booth area. We can't wait to continue to spread awareness about Banned Books with you all next year in our newly renovated space!



Working with DLAs

Pro-tips for using them in your curriculum!



For the most **up-to-date DLAs**,
please visit our website:

<https://www.mtsac.edu/writingcenter/dlas.html>

DLAs (or Directed Learning Activities) are great ways to supplement student learning. They are in-depth informational resources on specific writing, grammar, and research topics that allow students the chance to practice their skills with guided activities at the end.

While DLAs are helpful for students in their learning process, they are not meant to help them master a skill but rather to provide them with an introductory understanding of a topic, concept, technique, etc. Therefore, DLAs are always best used in conjunction with a lesson you have gone over in class!

Tips for assigning DLAs:

1. **Staggering multiple DLA due dates** is helpful because students can plan their tutoring appointments ahead of time. This also helps alleviate any backed up WC traffic we sometimes experience when classes assign DLAs to be due the same week they were assigned.
2. We also suggest assigning **no more than 1 DLA per week**. When multiple classes have more than 1 DLA due in a week, it causes high drop-in wait times that we can't always accommodate due to our limited staffing (unfortunately, we only have so many tutors).
3. If you have a DS (Dedicated Writing Specialist) in your class, please consider sending students to a **group DLA session with your DS!**
4. We update our DLAs frequently to make them better, more accurate, etc., so to make sure you are assigning the current version, **always download them from our website!**



Featured Workshop of the Month

Workshop Title: **Finding & Evaluating Sources**
When: **Tuesday, October 15th from 3-4pm**
With: **Nicole Blean, Writing Center Assistant Director**

Our **Finding & Evaluating Sources** workshop is a great way for students to receive guided help on their sources for a research essay. It covers how to find sources and also how to determine their quality and usefulness!

Students can view the monthly calendar & register for workshops on our website at: <https://www.mtsac.edu/writingcenter/workshops.html>



MT. SAC WRITING CENTER

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NO TIME
FOR APPT!?



TRY USING...

ASYNCH FEEDBACK



October 2024 Online Workshops

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
NO WORKSHOP	NO WORKSHOP	NO WORKSHOP	Building Your Thesis Statement @ 6-7pm	NO WORKSHOP
NO WORKSHOP	Developing Analytical Paragraphs @ 2-3pm	APA Made Easy @ 5-6pm	MLA Made Easy @ 6-7pm	Research Essay Steps to Success @ 1-2pm
NO WORKSHOP	Finding and Evaluating Sources @ 3-4pm	NO WORKSHOP	Incorporating Sources Effectively @ 6-7pm	NO WORKSHOP
NO WORKSHOP	Understanding & Avoiding Plagiarism @ 3-4pm	Using Quotations & Paraphrases @ 5-6pm	Personal Statement Workshop @ 6-7pm	Fixing Fragments, Run-ons, and Comma Splices @ 1-2pm
NO WORKSHOP	Conquering Commas @ 2-3pm	Writing with Flow @ 5-6pm	Revising for Success @ 6-7pm	

Asynchronous Feedback

The Writing Center's Asynchronous Feedback feature is a service that we provide to try to accommodate for busy, asynchronous students who don't always have the time or means to meet with a tutor synchronously. This service is designed to help students improve their writing. Students can receive help in recognizing recurrent errors, finding ways to organize ideas, and becoming better at identifying how to improve their writing. It works best for complete or near complete essay drafts! Our Writing Specialists receive training on how to give this kind of feedback, and our Support Staff always do a quality check before feedback is sent back to students. To access our Asynchronous Feedback form, please click [here](#).

Upcoming Events:

- Spooky Story Contest
 - Submissions open from **Oct. 1- 31**; winners announced **1st week of November!**
- Writer's Block Party
 - Open lab study/research sessions during **Week 15**



Thank you for reading! To access our WC newsletter's 1st issue from August 2024, click [here!](#)



WWW.MTSAC.EDU/WRITINGCENTER

The Mt. SAC Writing Center presents

2nd Annual Spooky Story Contest

Scan below to submit your story by Oct. 31st at 11:59pm



<https://bit.ly/46lFIAA>
Scariest Sentence



<https://bit.ly/3QbirCc>
Horror Flash Fiction
(500-750 words)



<https://bit.ly/3RSMhwE>
Fall Poem

Winners & prizes announced 1st week of Nov. via email & on instagram: @thewritingcenter_mtsac

For more info, please contact Sophia O'Brien: sobrien3@mtsac.edu