

Faculty Learning Community for Faculty Writers

Leader(s): Martha Stoddard Holmes, Full Professor of Literature & Writing Studies

Description

This FLC is a revision of the Power Writers FLC informed by Dr. Rebecca Lush's subsequent writing FLC and our conversations about best practices for CSUSM and this format. Both of us found that Wendy Belcher's *Write Your Journal Article in 12 Weeks* provides a useful resource but that a modified format less anchored to the text allows for better faculty engagement and development. This FLC follows best practices of both scholarly and creative writing groups, with a combination of support, coaching/practice, and accountability to the group and oneself as a writer. Each participant will receive detailed and constructive feedback from the leader and the group on a piece of academic writing, as well as learning and benefiting from careful reading of other participants' drafts. The FLC works best when there is a mix of scholars from the humanities and social sciences so there is enough commonality with academic writing styles, but enough disciplinary variety that all participants learn to better tailor their scholarship for increased reader accessibility and greater clarity of argument.

FLC Learning Outcomes

- Articulate the characteristics of their writing practice including barriers to writing.
- Plan writing practices to better protect their research time and make desired progress in written work.
- Identify and implement tools and strategies for increasing effectiveness in the writing process.
- Use feedback and other revision strategies to improve drafts.
- Identify and practice effective feedback methods (helpful to their own writing as well as their teaching at a writing-intensive campus).

Who should apply?

Participants need to have **a specific academic writing project that is started and ready for a period of sustained writing and revision**. In other words, if the writing is based on research, enough of the research should be completed so that the participant is really ready to engage the writing process. This is not an FLC for finding a project, though projects do sometimes change as well as evolve in the writing process.

Participants need to be able to commit to the ten (10) one-hour virtual meetings and ready to engage in writing workshop activities that will require them to read colleagues' manuscripts (and submit their own) *in advance of FLC meetings*.

How will faculty be selected?

Diversity of participants is always an asset. That can take many forms, including home discipline/s, professional location (lecturer, assistant professor, and so on).

What are the deliverables?

- Barring emergencies, participants need to attend all sessions as the combination of support and accountability is essential to the functioning of the group.
- Participants will respect their own and others' time by completing group assignments in a timely way.
- Participants will sign up for a workshop day and submit a draft to the group for review at least a week ahead of their scheduled workshop date so that all have an opportunity to read and provide thoughtful and detailed feedback.

Time Commitment

Participants will meet during University Hour (12-1 pm) over Zoom on the following Thursdays:

September 16th, 23rd, 30th; October 7th, 14th, 21st, 28th; November 4th and 18th; and December 2nd and 9th. Veterans' Day and Thanksgiving Day holidays mean that we will not meet for two Thursdays, but *optional* writers' hangouts will be scheduled on another day for each of those weeks to allow for consistency and momentum.

Compensation

Faculty will receive \$150 compensation for participating in the FLC, upon completion of action plan and missing no more than 2 meetings.

Application:

Faculty should include an abstract of the writing project and the first few pages of a draft. The goal is not only to know what the writer will be working on but also see a short sample of the writing. Fill out this [application](#). Priority will be given to faculty who submit their application by **September 10, 2021**.