



# NEWSLETTER



## TUTOR WRITING TIPS

- My go-to writing advice for everyone is to read what they write out loud.
- I like to tell people not to be afraid of semicolons; they aren't scary when you know how to use them.
- Try color-coding your paragraphs to make sure you include all necessary parts. For example, you could make your topic sentence **green**, evidence **red**, and explanations **blue**, so you know how much of each you have.

## WRITING WEDNESDAYS

This semester, we're offering workshops on selected Wednesdays on the following topics.

Wednesday, March 5, 12:30-1:30  
**Responding to Instructor Feedback (for students)**

Wednesday, March 26, 12:30-1:30  
**Framing Your Writing Assignments for Student Success Across Disciplines (for instructors)**

Wednesday, April 9, 12:30-1:30  
**Prompting Gen AI as a Study Buddy (for students)**

Wednesday, April 23 Workshop  
**Capstone/Thesis Writing Process (for graduate students across disciplines looking ahead to AY 25-26)**

*Registration is open for our next Writing Center workshop: Engaging with Instructor Feedback (12:30-1:30, March 5, WD W314). This workshop is for CCSU students.*

*In this workshop, we will offer strategies and resources for students to review and process instructor feedback on their written work. By the end of this workshop, students will leave with ways to categorize, reflect upon, address, and apply instructor feedback to their writing. Students should feel free to bring along writing with instructor feedback! Up to 12 participants.*



## INTRODUCTION TO OUR SERVICES

We offer free, one-on-one tutoring to the Central community. In our sessions, we provide resources, strategies, and techniques for writing across disciplines and genres.

We will work with you at any stage of your writing process, from understanding your purpose and brainstorming ideas to discovering revision strategies. Our work includes help with:

- reviewing assignment guidelines
- generating ideas
- developing ideas
- organizing ideas
- evaluating and integrating research
- documenting sources
- improving sentence structure and style
- recognizing technical errors
- reviewing application materials
- ...and much more!



The Writing Center conducts in-person and online sessions.

Central students, staff, and faculty are able to schedule appointments through our regular scheduling software, called WCONLINE: <https://ccsu.mywconline.com/>. We also accept walk-ins.



Instructors: request  
a class visit!

Most sessions take place for 30 minutes, but you may make an appointment for 15, 30, 45, or 60 minutes. If you are not sure about session length, give us a call or stop by!

In each session, we offer conversation, questions, feedback, and strategies to help you improve your writing. We recommend that you visit us more than once as you work through drafts of your writing.



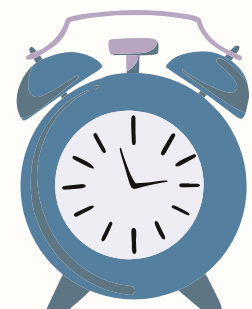
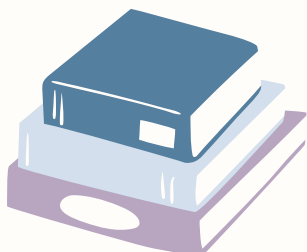
## BOOK CLUB SELECTION

Our March Read

*This is How You Lose the Time War* by  
Amal El-Mohtar & Max Gladstone

Among the ashes of a dying world, an agent of the Commandment finds a letter. It reads: *Burn before reading*. Thus begins an unlikely correspondence between two rival agents hellbent on securing the best possible future for their warring factions. Now, what began as a taunt, a battlefield boast, becomes something more. Something epic. Something romantic. Something that could change the past and the future.

Except the discovery of their bond would mean death for each of them. There's still a war going on, after all. And someone has to win that war.



## TUTOR SPOTLIGHT

### Meet Ava LeBlanc



#### *Why did you decide to become a writing tutor?*

I am a Secondary English Education major, so initially I signed up for some relevant career experience. However, I cannot say how much I have grown academically, pedagogically, spiritually, and socially because of this job. I come here to hang out when I'm not on schedule because all of my closest friends work here. If I had known it would be like this, I would have signed up years ago.

#### *What do you most enjoy about tutoring?*

HELPING PEOPLE! Providing them with skills that can help them long after the session ends!

#### *What do you do during your dedicated writing time each week?*

Typically, I try to ground myself in writing. A meditative journal session. How am I feeling? How do I feel about the day? The sun? The rain? Perhaps this is not very academically productive, but alas, it is typically what I need.

#### *What's your favorite writing genre?*

An experimental narrative? A linguistic mess? Whatever comes to my mind, and whatever form comes after I organize those thoughts.

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## TUTOR SPOTLIGHT CONTINUED

### Meet Ava LeBlanc

*Is there a word you find particularly beautiful?*

*Ephemera: things that exist only for a temporary use. Movie tickets, flyers, wedding invitations, birthday cards. It is beautiful how such temporary things can represent a whole life.*

*Which citation style do you enjoy using?*

*I'm an English major through and through, MLA 9th edition!*

*What's your favorite type of tea?*



What an appropriate question: here at the Writing Center, we consume a lot of tea, and when I'm on the schedule the kettle is at a constant boil. I'll take you through my daily tea schedule to describe my favorites: when I wake up, I start with a plain black Lipton tea with a splash of cream. At the Writing Center, I'll usually have one more Earl Grey then peppermint for the rest of the day. If I feel fancy, I'll make a matcha in the afternoon. I am also a particular fan of Rooibos.

*What are your hobbies?*

I take a jewelry class over the summer at the Connecticut School of Jewelry Art in New Hartford, and I have been working on restoring my 1965 Singer Featherweight sewing machine so I can sew some patchwork clothing!

*Do you have any pets?*

I have one dog, a Fox Wire Terrier named Fiona, and she is sixteen years old, and with her age she is nearly blind and mostly deaf. She mostly gets around by sniffing and walking into things, which is sad, but she still has remarkable energy and an unmatched satiation for food. She is the first thing to make me smile in the morning.

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## POETRY HIGHLIGHTS

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### **Things I do instead of things I should be doing**

by Violet Scherer

playing a game where strange creatures that I see through rose colored glasses that obscure complex math problems. shuffling a deck of cards that I have nobody to play with. sending messages to my friends and hoping that they'll save me from the deep fog I'm trudging through. watching a video where people are having fun performing, so that I can feel less hollow in the reality that it will never be me. sitting, or lying down, and simply turning everything off– or pretending to, as the fog gets thicker and the knife in the back of my brain digs itself in deeper. staring into a glass abyss that reflects everything I hate about myself, and a nice violet hue. twirling my hair on my finger. delving into the deepest recesses of a person I used to think I knew and pretending that I've outgrown their destructive urges, while wondering if I've merely repressed that too. panicking about a phone call I haven't made yet. juggling. thinking about all of the "great things" I could do with my life if I wasn't strapped to a stretcher by all of the "great things" I could do with my life. doom scrolling on twitter, I mean bluesky, I mean X, I mean, I mean, I mean. reconstructing my cage with more and more padding, hoping someday I'll be comfortable again. puncturing my chest to relieve the pressure. contemplating whether or not words will ever suffice to construct a facsimile of myself, so that I can put it on a petri dish, look through a microscope, and find a cure for the cancer that must be taking up all of the room in my brain. watching another video, where someone with rose colored glasses plays a game with strange creatures that I see through rose colored glasses that obscure complex math problems because it reminds me of a time when my cage was bigger. or perhaps I was still small enough to fit comfortably inside of it.

## POETRY HIGHLIGHTS



### **Abandonment**

by Writing Center Staff

My paper's full of memories,  
And it says,

“It's getting lonely in this bag.  
Time's weighing on me heavily,  
I feel like I have much  
More to say.

Funny how things change,  
I miss the way I used to be,  
I miss the freedom of a blank page,  
And all the possibilities.

But now it's over,  
And I've been read,  
I wanted closure,  
But I got a grade instead.”



## ART HIGHLIGHTS



BETHANY THE SOURDOUGH STARTER  
BORN FEB 2, 2025

## ART HIGHLIGHTS



HUMS IN G4  
BY GIOVANNI MASON-BROOKES



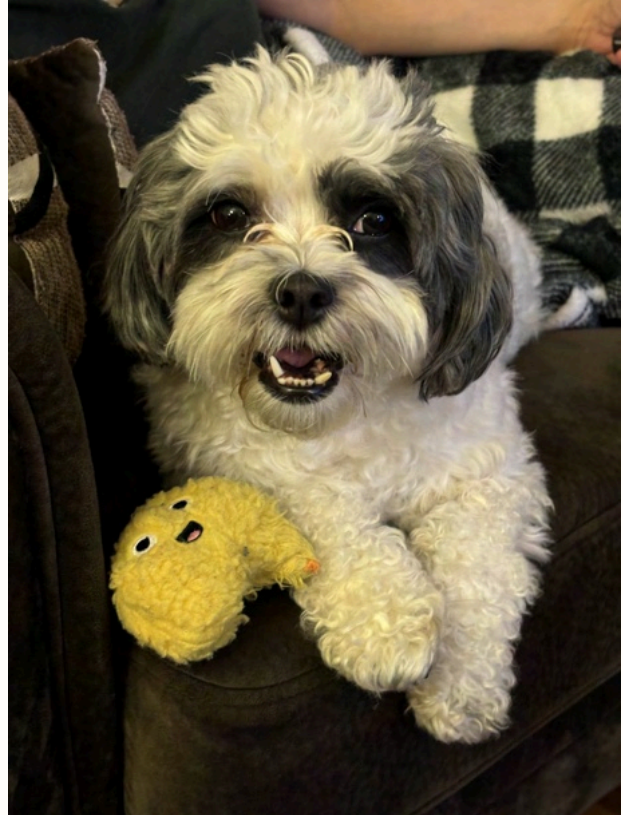
# ART HIGHLIGHTS



STARDEW VALLEY WRITING CENTER BUNDLE  
BY WRITING CENTER STAFF



## OUR PETS







## How does it work?

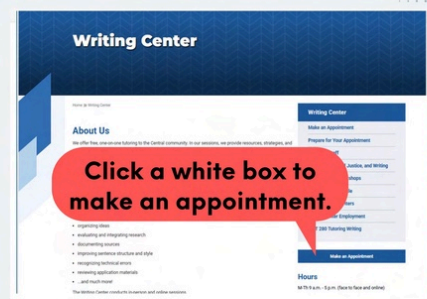
Parallel Writing is a productivity technique that involves working on tasks with another person as an accountability partner, whether online or in-person. Book quiet writing time to work in the Writing Center by visiting [ccsu.mywconline.com](https://ccsu.mywconline.com). A tutor will work next to you. At the beginning of the appointment, the tutor will help you set a manageable goal for your session. In the final few minutes of the appointment, you will touch base about your progress with the tutor, who will then record it in your tutor report and send it to you via email. Parallel Writing is also good for longer projects like capstones to break into manageable chunks.

## Why Does this work?

It's like phoning a friend while you're trying to clean your room except the friend is the tutor who works next to you while encouraging you to stay on task and serving as a sounding board for ideas. By watching someone else stay busy, you are motivated to work as well.

## Availability

- ✓ Mon – Thur 9AM – 5PM (face-to-face & online)
- ✓ Wed & Thur 6PM – 8PM (online)
- ✓ Friday 9AM – 1PM (face-to-face & online)



Start here to create an account.

... logged out.

First visit? [Register for an account.](#)  
 Returning? Log in below.

Email Address  
 Password

Check this box to stay logged in:

**Log In**

Having trouble logging in? [Reset your password.](#)  
 Receiving unwanted texts? [Remove your mobile number.](#)

Call us for more info



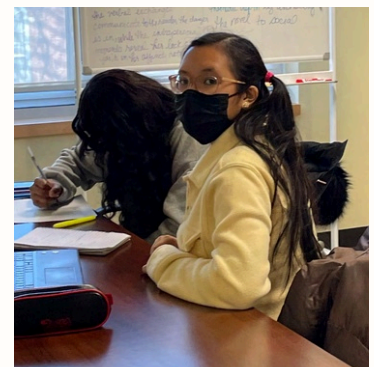
**860.832.2765**



# COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP

## With Achievement First Academy

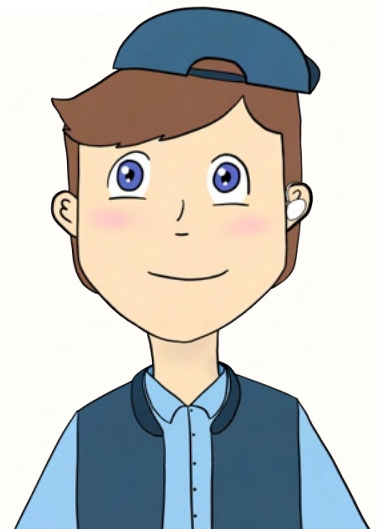
Writing Center staff met with high school students from Achievement First Academy in Hartford to work on best practices for tutoring writing. These students are starting their own writing center at their school. The partnership continues this semester!



# MEET KEVIN WETLANDICUS

## The Scribocactus from Paperoterra

He's here to learn about writing...



...and vanquish his nemesis, Chad Jeep!

## SOCIAL MEDIA

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