The Writing Process

TRIDENT UNIVERSITY INTERNATIONAL
The purpose of this workshop is to help students write focused, organized, and well-supported papers at Trident University and beyond in future educational pursuits and/or the workplace.

Indeed, written communication is an essential skill not only at the university level, but beyond in the real world. In addition to speaking, one’s writing skills are a reflection of one’s education and experience.

This presentation serves as an introduction of topics covered in more detail in Parts 1-4 of the workshop.
The Writing Process

Writing is a process of steps – each building on the other.

Academic Reading ➔ Critical Thinking ➔ Writing
Writing Process Questions

Throughout the writing process - as you write and rewrite - you will frequently ask:

• What is my point or purpose?

• Who is my audience?

• Have I included a clear thesis statement that states the main point of my essay?

• Is my thesis supported with enough evidence to persuade my readers?

• Are my ideas arranged in an organized and logical essay?
Planning

The process of writing a paper consists of three parts: Planning, Developing, and Drafting.

At times, a specific paper topic will be provided. Even in those cases, one must determine what it is he or she will say – what point will be made on the topic. This is the first part of Planning:

**identifying audience and purpose**

With a purpose, you may decide on one main point. With a main point you may state a thesis. And with a strong thesis you may begin to organize your ideas by grouping or creating an outline.
Developing

With a plan, you may continue the process by Developing...

developing the thesis and the ideas you have grouped or outline.

Depending on the course and assignment, you will typically interpret, analyze, and/or evaluate. You will come up with specific points to support your interpretation, your point of view, your thesis using points, details, and examples to explain.

Once you have developed your thoughts into groups or an outline, it is time to begin to draft the essay.
The third phase of the writing process is Drafting. A more detailed discussion of how to format the academic essay is found in the next presentation.

Drafting involves actually putting pen to paper or fingers to the keyboard and creating! For those who prefer to start at the beginning, an introductory paragraph is first created. Others may wish to construct their body paragraphs and create a conclusion before writing the introductory paragraph. The thought behind this is believe it is silly to introduce something that has not yet been written. In either case, once the introduction, body paragraphs, and conclusion have been written, you must address coherence to be sure the paper flows – that it is consistent, logic, and sound. Lastly, and extremely important, you must proofread and edit your paper for grammar and sentence skill errors including punctuation, spelling, and diction (or wording).
The purpose of this course is to help you write focused, organized, and well-supported papers at Trident University and beyond. Indeed, written communication is an essential skill not only at the university level, but beyond in the real world.

Writing is a recursive process. It is a process of steps – each building on the other. After reading actively and thinking critically, the writing process begins.

Along the way, writers continually ask themselves about their purpose, their target audience... checking for a clear thesis, supporting points, organization, grammar and sentence skills.
Writing Process

The process of writing a paper consists of three parts: Planning, Developing, and Drafting.

**PLANNING** involves identifying one’s audience and purpose, deciding on one main point, stating a thesis, and organizing ideas by grouping or with an outline.

**DEVELOPING** involves interpreting, analyzing, and evaluating (depending on the course or assignment), supporting through specific points, and explaining using details and examples.

**DRAFTING**, involves actually writing the essay, creating an introductory paragraph, body paragraphs, and a concluding paragraph as well as addressing coherence, proofreading, and editing.