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Title: Center for Writing and Languages

Center for Writing and Languages

Administration

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The Center for Writing and Languages (CWL), formerly known as the University Writing Program (UWP), was established in 2006 as part of Liberty's efforts to improve graduate student writing. In support of Liberty University's mission, the CWL provides quality academic support in the areas of writing and language acquisition by offering free writing and language tutoring services to the academic community, including students, staff, and faculty. The CWL is committed to fostering and facilitating university-wide excellence in communication in a variety of languages and mediums.

To fulfill this purpose and to serve the largest number of persons possible, the CWL is composed of multiple areas, each of which specializes in its own subject and audience. These areas are the Graduate Writing Center, Undergraduate Writing Center, Online Writing Center, Spanish Writing Center, Foreign Language Lab, and Online Foreign Language Lab, which collectively provide a supportive learning atmosphere, well-trained peer and professional tutors, classes and workshops designed to address specific student needs, and a wealth of writing and language resources available in both hard copy and online at the CWL web page (<http://www.liberty.edu/universitywritingprogram>).

The Directors of the CWL are available to faculty for classroom presentations or for help in developing teaching aids, rubrics, or assignments. CWL staff members routinely make presentations on topics such as documentation, common grammar errors, plagiarism, and many other writing-related skills in classrooms and in faculty workshops.

Currently, all CWL services are free of charge to Liberty University students and faculty. Faculty may download any CWL-produced online materials for use in their classes.

GRADUATE WRITING CENTER

The mission of the Graduate Writing Center (GWC) is to assist graduate students and faculty of all disciplines and all levels of expertise to become the best writers they can be. In support of this mission, the GWC provides free face-to-face tutoring sessions (our core service), classroom presentations, workshops, and web resources to students, faculty, and staff. Peer tutors work with writers at all stages of the writing process, from topic selection to documentation.

The GWC is located in the CWL suite behind Jazzman's on the second floor of the Integrated Learning Resource Center in DeMoss Hall. Students or faculty may contact the GWC by emailing graduatewriting@liberty.edu, or calling (434) 592-4727.

ONLINE WRITING CENTER

In support of the University mission, Liberty's Online Writing Center (OWC) helps online students at any level of written English proficiency identify, understand, and improve their academic writing strengths and weaknesses. To this end, the OWC offers synchronous and asynchronous tutoring by a wide variety of trained tutors with insider experience in the various degree programs offered by Liberty Online. Without editing, OWC tutors provide comprehensive written feedback on drafts with direct links to web resources and writing aids specific to each student's writing needs or speak with students via Skype to discuss projects at any stage of the writing process. Through the OWC, online students may also access a wide variety of resources—handouts, worksheets, and presentations—to research writing concerns and improve their academic writing skills.

Through the Online Writing Center web page (<http://www.liberty.edu/onlinewritingcenter>), online students can submit drafts of upcoming assignments to receive tutor feedback, schedule appointments to speak online with a tutor, e-mail quick questions to tutors, or offer suggestions for further online writing aids that the OWC should consider developing. Students may contact the OWC by emailing onlinewriting@liberty.edu but should not submit drafts for review to this email address. All drafts must be submitted using the submission link on the web page.

FOREIGN LANGUAGE LAB

In addition to the writing centers, the Center for Writing and Languages offers foreign language tutoring services through the Foreign Language Lab. The primary purpose of the Foreign Language Lab is to provide one-on-one and group tutoring sessions for students studying American Sign Language, Chinese, French, German, and Spanish. However, tutoring for students who are learning English as a second language (ESL) is also provided.

The Foreign Language Lab employs advanced undergraduate students who have native speaking ability in the offered foreign languages and advanced knowledge of the grammar and writing skills correlated to those languages. Individuals can schedule a tutoring session ahead of time with the tutor or come for a walk-in appointment. They will receive personalized instruction on all areas related to language acquisition, including grammar, vocabulary, appropriate writing style, and oral and auditory practice and development.

In addition to providing foreign language and ESL tutoring, the Foreign Language Lab offers conversation groups in each language, including English conversation groups for non-native speakers. Conversation groups help language learners practice their listening and speaking skills in a relaxed and open setting.

The Director of the Foreign Language Lab is available to faculty for classroom presentations or for help in developing teaching aids, rubrics, or assignments. In addition, all foreign language faculty are welcome to make the lab part of their students' classroom experience, either by holding classes in the lab or requiring students to visit for tutoring services.

Persons interested in utilizing the services offered by the Foreign Language Lab may contact the lab by emailing foreignlanguagelab@liberty.edu, calling (434)592-3175, or visiting <http://www.liberty.edu/foreignlanguagelab>. The Foreign Language Lab is located in the CWL suite behind Jazzman's on the second floor of the Integrated Learning Resource Center in DeMoss Hall.

ONLINE FOREIGN LANGUAGE LAB

In August 2012, the Center for Writing and Languages (CWL) opened the Online Foreign Language Lab (OFLL). While the residential Foreign Language Lab (FLL) offers customized foreign language tutoring services for residential students, the OFLL reaches out to Liberty University's online population. The OFLL provides free one-on-one tutoring sessions for students studying German, Spanish, and English as a second language (ESL) through Liberty University Online's conversational language courses.

The OFLL employs highly qualified individuals with native-speaking ability who not only meet the language standards but are also skilled in effectively tutoring and teaching essential language skills. These tutors provide personalized instruction in all areas related to language acquisition, including grammar, vocabulary, appropriate writing style, and oral and auditory practice and development. Considering the long-distance nature of online learning, students will meet with tutors via Skype and MSN Messenger and can find out more information about this center and scheduling an appointment:

Website: <http://www.liberty.edu/onlineforeignlanguagelab>

Email: onlinefll@liberty.edu

Phone: (434)592-3175.

SPANISH WRITING CENTER: CENTRO DE ESCRITURA EN ESPAÑOL

In May of 2012, the Center for Writing and Languages (CWL) opened The Spanish Writing Center (SWC), or Centro de Escritura en Español (CEE), to provide writing tutoring services for Liberty University en Español (LUE) students. The SWC aims to improve LUE's undergraduate and graduate student populations' writing skills by providing written and live feedback on essays and other written assignments, administering writing skills development exercises, and developing flyers and presentations with quick reference information regarding grammar, formal/academic writing standards, writing styles (MLA, APA, and Turabian), and more. By providing these free services, the SWC improves the students' chances for academic success.

While other universities have Spanish writing centers geared toward tutoring

students learning the Spanish language, Liberty University's SWC is a unique and innovative center that assists Spanish-speaking students who are writing in their native language. For more information, please visit the SWC at:

Website: <http://www.liberty.edu/spanishwritingcenter>

Email: spanishwritingcenter@liberty.edu

Phone: (434)592-3175