Helping Graduate Students Become Successful Writers:

A Graduate Writing Center

Deploys both

Disciplinary Writing Consultants and Generalists

Presented by North Dakota State University's Graduate Center for Writers

Enrico Sassi: Director

Matt Warner: Disciplinary Consultant, College of Science and Math

Kristina Caton: Disciplinary Consultant, College of Human Development and Education

Drew Taylor: Disciplinary Consultant, College of Engineering

Shweta Sharma: Generalist Consultant

Workshops and Intervention Strategies for Faculty: The Graduate Center for Writers

- How to develop rubrics to assess discipline-specific writing
- Responding to student writing: How to write helpful comments
- Genre-specific pedagogy
- Writer's block
- Scaffolding writing assignments through the semester
- How to create assignments that develop specific skill sets (like synthesis or citation)

Threshold Concepts

- Writing is a social and rhetorical activity
- Writing speaks to situations through recognizable forms
- Writing enacts and creates identities and ideologies
- All writers have more to learn

Writing is a cognitive activity

Naming What We Know: Threshold Concepts of Writing Studies. Eds. Linda Adler-Kassner & Elizabeth Wardle



Always start with the basics!

Three Ways We Read and/or Write

- We Write for Our Own Understanding: Reading our writing in the context of our needs
- We Read as a Reader: Seeing our writing through our audience's eyes
- We Read as Writers: Revising our writing for the needs and expectations of our audience