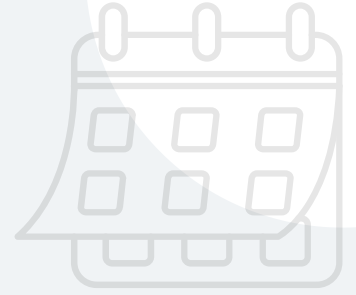**UMass Dartmouth**
Spring 2026

Course Schedule

ENL 359: Tutoring Writing

Course Schedule

As the semester unfolds, it might be desirable/necessary to make appropriate changes to aspects of this schedule (due dates, in-person meetings, etc.). I reserve the right to make changes. I will always communicate these changes in the **#sp26-enl-359** Discord channel and post an updated schedule on Canvas.

Table of Contents

Week 1

T 1.27   **Welcome to ENL 359!**

In Class
- Listening Party: *Pedagogue*, "Episode 28: Frankie Condon"
- Syllabus, course materials, and schedule overview
- Online Platforms
  - Canvas & Perusall
  - Discord
  - Substack

Th 1.29   **Thinking About Writing Center Spaces, WMC Presentation + Tour**

General
- Read the syllabus and annotate using Perusall
  - Ask at least 1 question about the course
- Prepare: Write down 1 question you have about the WMC and/or tutoring writing

Readings
- Affirming Our Liminality & Writing on the Walls: How We Welcome in Our Writing Center" (Nordstrom et al., 2019)
- "Brave and Safe Spaces as Welcoming in Online Tutoring" (Brugman, 2019)
- "Burn the House Down: Deconstructing the Writing Center as Cozy Home" (Camarillo, 2019)

In Class
- Learn about current WMC services
- Visit the WMC and begin developing an understanding of writing centers and welcoming atmospheres

Week 2

T 2.3   **Assumptions About Writing Centers**

Readings
- "The Idea of a Writing Center" (North, 1984)
- "Revisiting 'The Idea of a Writing Center'" (North, 1994)
- "What *Does* the Instructor Want? The View from the Writing Center" (Harris, 2006)

In Class
- Writing center myths
- Canva

Homework
- **Join** Dr. B's Discord Server
  - Follow instructions in #onboarding & #roles
- **Join** Dr. B's Canva Course
- **Sign up** for your WMC Social Media Takeover Slot

Th 2.5   **What's Your Writing Process + Introduction to Building the WMC's AI & Tutoring Guide**

Readings
- Terry, O. K. (2023, May 12. I'm a student. You have no idea how much we're using ChatGPT. No professor or software could ever pick up on it. *The Chronicle of Higher Education*.
- "Heuristic to Design Your GenAI Use Policy" (Gupta, 2025)
- "Interfacing Chat GPT: A Heuristic for Improving Generative AI Literacies" (Dighton, 2025)

In Class
- How I Write
- GenAI exploration

Homework
- **Sign up** for your AI Discussion Leader date

Week 3

T 2.10   **Building Rapport: Listening and Engaging During Tutoring Sessions + Group Presentation Overview**

Readings
- "The Importance of Rapport" (Mahaffey, 2020)
- "Listening in/to the Writing Center: Backchannel and Gaze" (Santa, 2016)
- "Gestural Listening and the Writing Center's Virtual Boundaries" (Feibush, 2018)

In Class
- Group Presentation requirements
- WMC Tutoring Handbook

Homework
- Submit Your Spring 2026 Availability
- Syllabus Quiz closes

Th 2.12   **Conducting a Tutoring Session**

Readings
- "Setting the Agenda" (Macauley, 2005)
- "Tutors' Column: The First Step: Students' Initial Encounters with the Writing Center" (Sewell, 2016)
- "Inclusive Sentence-Level Writing Support" (Draxler et al., 2022)
- "Writing and Being: Responding to Responses to Writing in the Writing Center" (Verret, 2022)

In Class
- Create Substack accounts
- Timing appointments

Homework
- Discussion – Post Your Substack Link

Week 4

T 2.17   No Class; Follow Monday's class schedule

Th 2.19   **Writing Centers & AI: Session 1 + Practice Providing Feedback Part I**

Readings
- See the Writing Centers & AI Reading Schedule for your assigned AI text
- "Motivational Scaffolding, Politeness, and Writing Center Tutoring" (Mackiewicz & Thompson, 2013)
- See the Writing Centers & AI Reading Schedule for your assigned AI text

In-Class
- AI Discussion Leader
- Bring a piece of your writing to class

Week 5

T 2.24   **Due – Experiential Substack Post: Initial WMC Observation**

Moving the Writing Center Online

Readings
- "From Behind the Screen: Best Practices for Online Tutoring" (Dorton & Ries, 2014)
- "Learning Online to Tutor Online" (Gallagher & Maxfield, 2019)
- "Why Writers Choose Asynchronous Online Tutoring: Issues of Access and Inclusion" (Bell, Brantley, & van Vleet, 2022)

In Class
- Introduction to synchronous and asynchronous online tutoring

Th 2.26   **Writing Centers & AI: Session 2 + Practicing Providing Feedback Part II**

Readings
- See the Writing Centers & AI Reading Schedule for your assigned AI text

In Class
- AI Discussion Leader
- Form presentation groups + sign up for dates

Week 6: Asynchronous

T 3.3   **Due – Experiential Substack Post: In-Person WMC Appointment**

Asynchronous Writing Appointments + Writing Post-Session Reports

Readings
- "Expanding Writing Center Space-Time: Tutoring Modality, Access, and Equity" (Barron et al., 2023)
- "Communicating Work-Related Conflict: Textual Analysis of Politeness Strategies and Linguistic Cues in Tutor Session Notes" (Giaimo & Gulino)

Th 3.5   **Homework**
- Asynchronous Tutoring Part I

Week 7

T 3.10   **Research Databases + Begin Discussing Graduate Student Writers and Literature Reviews**

Readings
- "Tutor Training and Services for Multilingual Graduate Writers: A Reconsideration" (Phillips, 2013)

- "Intake and Orientation: The Role of Initial Writing Center Consultations with Graduate Students" (Lawrence et al., 2019)
- "But Does it Flow: Shaping Literature Reviews with Metadiscourse" (Phillips & Ryerson, 2022)

In-Class
- Receive instruction from a research librarian on research databases
- Practice using databases and discuss incorporating them into tutoring sessions

Th 3.12

Due – Experiential Substack Post: Online WMC Appointment

Writing Centers & AI: Session 3 + Finish Discussing Graduate Student Writers and Literature Reviews

Readings
- See the Writing Centers & AI Reading Schedule for your assigned AI text
- WMC Tutoring Handbook

In-Class
- Go-over schedule and expectations for WMC Shifts

Week 8

T 3.17 & Th 3.19   **Spring Break – No Class**

Week 9

T 3.24

WMC Shifts Begin

Due – Midterm – Multimodal Annotated Bibliography Substack Post: Building Toward Your Tutoring Philosophy

Group Presentation 1: Tutor and Writer Identities + Writing Center Professionalization

Readings
- "Conversation Shaper: Introvert vs. Extrovert: Who Is Championed in the Center?" (Hillman, 2023)
- "Conversation Shaper: Emotional Intelligence as a Teachable Skill: How Empathy-Based Training Can Shape the Writing Center into an Activist Space" (Peterson, 2023)
- "Teaching, Learning, and Practicing Professionalism in the Writing Center" (Earles & Ryan, 2019)

In-Class
- Group Presentation
- Midterm self-review

Th 3.26   **Writing Centers & AI: Session 4 – Final Discussion Session + Begin Drafting**

Readings
- See the Writing Centers & AI Reading Schedule for your assigned AI text

In-Class
- AI Discussion Leader
- Start Drafting WMC GenAI Tutoring Guide

Homework
- Asynchronous Tutoring Part II

Week 10

T 3.31

Due – Experiential Substack Post: Asynchronous WMC Appointment

Group Presentation 2: When Difficult Situations Arise: Case Studies, Tips, and Techniques

Readings
- "Correcting the Politically Incorrect: A Writing Tutor Dilemma" (Williams, 2012)
- "Tutoring Controversial Topics in the Age of Social Injustice" (Donabo, 2017)
- "Confronting Student Misconduct at the Writing Center" (Kovalick, Halye, & DuBois, 2021)

In-Class
- Group Presentation

Th 4.2

What Is the Role of Reading in a Writing Center?

Readings
- "Reading and Writing Centers: A Primer for Writing Center Professionals" (Carillo, 2017)
- "Reading with Purpose in the Writing Center" (Carillo, 2017)
- "Tutors' Column: Making Audience Visible: Readership and Audience in Writing Centers" (Fontaine-Iskra, 2017)
- Tutors' Column: "'Enough to Write the Papers': Reading and Reflection in the Writing Tutorial" (Girdharry, 2019)

In Class
- Academic reading strategies
- Modeling reading during sessions

Homework
- Discussion – Writing Tutor Q&A: Submit at least 1 question for next week's Writing Tutor Q&A

Week 11

T 4.7

Due – Experiential Substack Post: Second WMC Observation with Mentor Interview

Writing Tutor Q&A

In Class
- Pose questions about tutoring and working in the WMC to current tutors

Th 4.9

Group Presentation 3: Mindfulness in the WMC + Building Writer Confidence

Readings
- "The Mindful Tutor" (Featherstone et al., 2019)
- "Self-Efficacy and the Relationship Between Tutoring and Writing" (2019)
- "Imposter Syndrome in the Writing Center: An Autoethnography of Tutoring as Mindfulness" (Villarreal, 2021)

In-Class
- Group Presentation

Week 12

T 4.14

Due – Experiential Substack Post: WMC Individual Tutoring, Co-Tutoring, or Additional Observation + Mentor Interview

Group Presentation 4: Tutoring Outside of Your Discipline + Final Project: Tutoring Philosophy Overview

Readings
- "What Two Cultures? Helping Tutors Cross Disciplines" (Burkert, 2014)
- "'Novelty Moves': Training Tutors to Engage with Technical Content" (Reinke et al., 2018)
- "The Role of Disciplinary Expertise in Shaping Writing Tutorials" (Dinitz & Harrington, 2014)

In-Class
- Group Presentation

Th 4.16   **Writing Centers & AI: Revision**

In Class
- Work on revising our collaboratively written WMC AI & Tutoring Guide

Week 13

T 4.21   **Group Presentation 5: Working with Multilingual Writers**

Readings
- "Empowering L2 Tutoring: A Case Study of a Second Language Writer's Vocabulary Learning" (Severino & Deifell, 2011)
- "'Noticing' Language in the Writing Center: Preparing Writing Center Tutors to Support Graduate Multilingual Writers" (Cox, 2019)
- "Yo También Puedo Ser A Writer" (Shannon, 2020)

In-Class
- Group Presentation

Th 4.23   **Due – Experiential Substack Post: WMC Informational Presentation**

Group Presentation 6: Fostering Accessibility & Inclusivity

Readings
- "Dyslexia in the Writing Center: Multimodal Strategies" (Murphy, 2020)
- "Caring for Students with Disabilities: (Re)Defining Welcome as a Culture of Listening" (Anglesey & McBride, 2019)
- "Steps Towards More Introspective and Anti-Racist Work in Writing Centers" (Vue & Wongwai, 2023)

In-Class
- Group Presentation

Week 14

T 4.28   **Flexible Work Day**

Use this time to catch up and work on your Tutoring Philosophy.

Recommended: Meet with me to discuss your tutoring philosophy.

Th 4.30   **Course Wrap-Up**

Readings
- "The Role of the Tutor in Developing and Facilitating Writing Center Workshops" (Crews & Garahan, 2019)

In Class
- Course eval
- ENL 359 Survey

Week 15

T 5.5   **Due – Tutoring Philosophy: Multimodal Component**

Tutoring Philosophy Gallery Walk

In Class
- View Tutoring Philosophy Multimodal Components
- Celebrate!

Week 16: Final Exam Period

W 5.13   **Tutoring Philosophy Due by 2:30 p.m.**

We will not meet during the exam period; however, your final Tutoring Philosophy must be submitted on time. I will be available for questions in the WMC.