

## SCHEDULING CONSULTATIONS FOR RESEARCH AND WRITING

Assignments for large research projects can be daunting. You may not know where to start, what kind of research you need, or how to organize your assignment. Here are a few tips about what to expect in consultations.

### Writing Center Consultation

Consultants will assist with any writing assignment, from any course, in any major, for the entirety of your UNA career. They will even help with resumes, cover letters, graduate school application essays, and personal writing, such as poetry or fiction.

#### The consultant can:

- Help choose a topic and develop a research question
- Work through strategies for constructing a basic outline
- Identify possible resources
- Serve as a sounding board for your ideas
- Help you identify strengths and weaknesses in your writing
- Work with you on content, structure, organization, or revision

Students are invited to schedule Writing Center Consultations at any stage of the writing process. Bring your assignment sheet and any work you already have.

### Research Consultation

This service provides in-depth assistance in library research, including identifying and locating the most useful sources of information for your paper, project, or assignment.

#### The librarian may:

- Suggest the most appropriate databases
- Help locate articles and books on your topic
- Help identify primary sources
- Explain how to use government documents and statistical sources

It is often helpful to have a clearly defined research question and some basic organization before entering a research consultation.

## Planning Your Consultations

In order to get the most out of your experience, we suggest the following options for students who plan to take advantage of both Writing Center Consultations and Research Consultations. Decide where you want to start and work your way forward from there.

1. **Visit the Writing Center before you start writing.** Work with the consultant on narrowing your topic, choosing a thesis, and choosing a research question. You can also put together a rough outline that matches the assignment.
2. **Schedule a Research Consultation.** Meet with one of the research librarians to collect sources to answer your research question. Bring your prewriting notes and outline!
3. **Visit the Writing Center for your rough draft.** After starting on a rough draft, work with a consultant on keeping your research and ideas organized. Further outlining can help give a rough draft clear and consistent direction.
4. **Visit the Writing Center for your final draft.** A consultant can identify style and grammar issues in your final draft and help with style formatting and source citation.

If you have any further questions, please don't hesitate to contact the Writing Center or any of the research librarians!