

Absent Professor Program- Bear CLAW Services Presentation

Audra Williams- Fall 2011

What is the Bear CLAW?

- The Bear CLAW is the Center for Learning and Writing, located on the first floor of Meyer Library.
- Houses subject area tutoring, the Writing Center, Supplemental Instruction and the drop-in math tutoring table.
- Also with math drop-in: accounting and economics
- The center seeks to create “an environment that fosters informal, collaborative work and social interaction” (Bear CLAW).
- The Bear CLAW also provides “a number of highly qualified students with employment or volunteer service opportunities for experience in peer tutoring.”
- All services are FREE to students.

How do students use the Bear CLAW?

- *Math drop-in table*: check in at the front desk, then simply take a seat at the table and a tutor will assist you.
- *Writing center*: Make an appointment using “Tutor Trac” (located on the “My Missouri State” site, under the “Academics” tab, in the “Learning Commons” section on the right hand side of the screen), or walk in. Check in at the front desk and a writing consultant will assist you.
- *Subject area tutoring*: Schedule an appointment online using “Tutor Trac” or call the Bear CLAW front desk. Tutoring is available for many different courses and subjects. Visit the Bear CLAW website for a complete listing of courses. A tutor will then meet with you individually and assist you with your specific course work.

What is the difference between “tutoring” and “consultation”?

- Consultation is a collaborative effort between the consultant and the student. A consultant will be “asking questions, making suggestions, and guiding the writer to a greater understanding of their paper” (Writing Center).
- A tutor will more directly aid a student in understanding specific content and may show examples for a problem or walk the student through a concept.

The Writing Center

- The Writing Center “is a welcoming place for you to gain advice on any writing assignment regardless of the course or topic. Whether you are just beginning an assignment or are in the final stages of a project, we can help” (Writing Center).
- Writing consultants do not edit papers. They are available to work with students to improve their writing skills.
- A writing consultant focuses on the academic quality of the paper, aiding the writer in achieving college-level technique.
- Group papers are welcome, but because writing consultants do not edit papers, all group members must be present in order for the session to proceed. Be sure to book your appointments in advance!
- A scheduled appointment is 45 minutes long and must be made at least 24 hours in advance.
- Walk-in sessions are welcome, but you are not guaranteed any time with a consultant. Walk-ins will be seen on a first come, first served basis between scheduled appointments. It is recommended to drop by the Writing Center on the half hour.
- Ways to prepare for a Writing Center Session:
 - o Bring your project in well before it is due
 - o Bring your instructor's assignment sheet, related class handouts, and textbook
 - o List your goals for the assignment
 - o Note the sections of your project that you feel are questionable
 - o Write a list of questions about your project
 - o Make a list of comments and suggestions that were marked on your other papers
 - o Bring your instructor's name and e-mail address