The Writing & Speaking Center is committed to helping all Colgate students succeed as clear, effective communicators.

Peer writing consultants help students improve and refine their writing; they can review a paper’s focus, development, organization, clarity, grammar, source integration, or other aspects.

Peer speaking consultants help students prepare the content of a speech or an oral presentation. They can also help speakers organize ideas and improve delivery to an audience.
WHO COMES TO THE WSC?
Each year, over half of the first-year class visits the WSC, and most students rate their session as “Excellent” and return at least once. Many students then become regular clients, continuing to seek feedback throughout their four years of college. WSC visitors range from students who experience some level of difficulty in meeting college-level expectations to those who excel in class assignments at Colgate yet still want to hone their craft as part of a writing community.

WHO ARE THE WSC CONSULTANTS?
WSC consultants are current Colgate students from across the disciplines and class years. Most often nominated by a faculty member, all consultants demonstrate strengths in their own writing or speaking, as well as in their approaches to helping students in one-to-one consultations. WSC consultants receive on-going training and have been selected not only for their skills, but also for their genuine interest in others’ ideas, voices, and writing development.

DOES THE WSC SUPPORT ESL/EFL STUDENTS?
Yes, all WSC consultants are trained to help ESL/EFL students (and others with diverse linguistic backgrounds) adapt to the conventions of Standard U.S. Academic English. Additionally, our affiliated ESL Specialist is a faculty member who can work individually with students who face special linguistic difficulties or who have interest in intensive or accelerated language acquisition work. Please contact Suzanne B. Spring at x7316, sspring@colgate.edu with any second language concerns.
HOW DO I MAKE AN APPOINTMENT?
Although drop-in appointments are usually available, it is often best to secure a guaranteed appointment through our on-line appointment system. Visit http://www.colgate.edu/writingcenter. You may make up to two appointments per week, and there is no limit on how far in advance you may reserve a time.

HOW SHOULD I PREPARE FOR A SESSION?
If you have a draft or an outline, bring two copies to your appointment; please also bring a copy of your professor’s prompt, if available. If you have not yet started writing, bring your notes and ideas, along with the prompt; your WSC consultant will ask questions about your understandings and potential arguments to help you move forward. Overall, WSC consultants respond to drafts by discussing a variety of relevant aspects, such as focus, development, structure, style, grammar, source integration, and/or delivery. Be prepared to talk with your consultant about honing your own craft and think about each session as a part of the process of cultivating the arts of writing and speaking.

WHERE IS THE WSC & WHAT ARE ITS HOURS?
The WSC is located in Lathrop Hall 208. Its hours are:
   Monday-Thursday from 10:15 a.m.–10:00 p.m.
   Friday 10:15 a.m.–3:00 p.m.
   Sunday 4:15 p.m.–10:00 p.m.
Writing is an *art*, a *technē*, which Aristotle describes as “a reasoned habit of mind in making something.”

WSC WORKSHOPS
The WSC will hold a series of workshops led by peer consultants and faculty. These workshops aim to share the wisdom gleaned by experienced and successful Colgate students. Afternoon snacks will be provided.

Mon 9/8, 4:15–5:00 p.m., Lathrop 210: Talking the Talk: Participating in Class Discussions and Office Hours

Mon 9/15, 4:15–5:00 p.m., Lathrop 210: Reading as a Colgate Scholar: Employing Critical Reading Strategies to Prepare for Lectures, Discussions, and Writing Assignments

Mon 9/22, 4:15–5:00 p.m., Lathrop 210: Crossing the Bridge: Transitioning from High School to College Writing and Research

Mon 9/29, 4:15–5:00 p.m., Lathrop 210: “AWK!”? How to Interpret and Make Use of Professors’ Comments on Written Work

RHETORICA: OPEN HOURS
Many students in the WSC have expressed interest in being able to work on a paper with a consultant and other writers nearby. To meet this need and to create a space for community and collaboration, the WSC will host open hours every Tuesday from 7:00–10:00 p.m., complete with hot drinks and dessert. Students may gather in Lathrop 208’s communal space, as individuals or in writing groups, to work on or discuss drafts, either on paper or on laptops. Regular individual appointments with WSC consultants will be available in the private Lathrop 208 A and B offices.
ENGLISH TABLE OF BABEL CONVERSATION CIRCLE
The WSC joins with the OISS (Office of International Student Services) to host a weekly Table of Babel Conversation Circle, every Tuesday in Frank Dining Hall from 11:30-1:00. Although not affiliated with any specific language course, this weekly table will offer students a chance to gain spoken fluency through conversations with speakers of English variations from across the globe. If you would like to participate, but do not have a lunch meal plan, free tickets are available from Christina Khan at x7370, ckhan@colagte.edu or Suzanne Spring at x7316, sspring@colgate.edu. All are welcome.

ENGLISH AS A GLOBAL LANGUAGE MINI-COURSE
The WSC and the OISS announce a 5-week non-credit mini-course that introduces students to the ways English has transformed into a contemporary lingua franca across the globe. Intended for any students interested in the politics and uses of English in its many variations, the course will feature lively dinner discussions on short readings and mini-lectures, as well as a one-day field experience in New York City to study contexts of global English variations first-hand. The 5-week course will take place on Tuesdays only, 5:30-7:00 p.m., from October 21–November 18. Applications will be available September 1 and are due by September 15; for more information, contact Suzanne B. Spring at x7316, sspring@colgate.edu.
RELATED RESOURCES

The WSC joins with three other central academic resources to support your scholarly work each step of the way:

THE UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES
Colgate University Librarians at both Case Library and Cooley Library in McGregor Hall provide students with many services, including knowledge about library procedures and resources; knowledge about information sources and their effective use; experience in developing research topics and conducting research projects; and deep and broad knowledge of subjects and terminology.

http://exlibris.colgate.edu/

THE CENTER for LEARNING, TEACHING and RESEARCH
The CLTR is dedicated to enhancing student learning. It offers information and consultation to aid students with academic advising, including general and individual advising services; instruction in learning strategies and study skills; assistance with time management and organization; and peer tutoring.

http://www.colgate.edu/center-for-learning-teaching-and-research

ACADEMIC SUPPORT and DISABILITY SERVICES
Lynn Waldman works with students and faculty to meet the needs of students with special needs and disabilities (e.g. learning disabilities, ADHD, chronic medical conditions, psychological disorders, mobility impairments or sensory impairments). In addition, students who suspect they may have a disability or who are experiencing difficulties with learning and performing are welcomed to contact her for assistance with learning and testing strategies.

http://www.colgate.edu/centers-and-institutes/center-for-learning-teaching-and-research/academic-support-and-disability-services
WSC OUTREACH
Peer consultants enjoy visiting classes to introduce students to WSC services. For FSEMs, we can arrange for a Link to bring your class directly to the WSC to learn about and feel welcome in the space. New in Fall 2014, speaking consultants will be available to visit courses to introduce students to services that can help them prepare for in-class presentations, class discussions, office hour interactions, and a variety of public speaking situations. To arrange a class visit, contact Maddy Peck ’15, Assistant to the Director, mpeck@colgate.edu.

RESOURCES, CONSULTATIONS, & ESL/EFL SUPPORT
We maintain an updated collection of resources, including rubrics for writing assignments or oral presentations, handouts and exercises for students on a variety of writing issues, and materials for faculty about teaching writing in the disciplines. We are happy to consult with you about any assignments or concerns, including questions about working with students for whom English is a second language. For any second language concerns, please contact Suzanne B. Spring at x7316, sspring@colgate.edu.

FSEM FACULTY COFFEE HOUR
New in Fall 2014, WSC faculty will host a coffee hour in Lathrop 207 every other Thursday from 11:15–12:15. Some sessions will feature FSEM faculty sharing best practices; other sessions will invite discussion of various writing- or speaking-related concerns, from introducing and responding to new types of assignments, to developing scaffolded projects, to grading. Feel free to come to one or all. Coffee and pastries provided by the FSEM Program.
WHAT CLIENTS SAY ABOUT WSC CONSULTANTS:

“She was clear, concise, helpful, supportive, and overall amazing. She helped me turn my ehh paper into something I am proud to turn in.”

“It really helped me clarify my thesis/paper by talking it through with someone. He was also very helpful with formatting and tenses.”

“She pointed out redundancies in my paper and areas that lacked clarity, as well as gave me advice on how to further expand/elaborate on my ideas. It was very helpful to have a second pair of eyes to pick up on things I wouldn’t have noticed on my own.”
WSC Peer Consultants, 2014-2015

Anastassia Bougakova '16
Jessica Capwell '16
Sarah Chandler '16
Iris Chen '17
Federico Elizondo '17
Hannah Goldstein '16
Rachel Gordh '15
Jessica Gorski '16
Anindya Guha '15
Peter Juviler '15
Alyse Kalish '16
John Murphy '15
Julia O’Neil '16
Gisselle Perez-Leon '15
Alex Pustelnyk '17
Zoë Smith '17
Vincent Sterel '16
Alanna Ticali '16
Lee Tremblay '16
Julie Wiese '15
Sarah Wooton '15
Marissa Yuen '17
Zoë Zissu '16

Maddy Peck '15, Assistant to the Director

WSC Faculty

Jennifer Lutman, Director
Suzanne B. Spring, Coordinator of Second Language Writing
Shana Walden, Professional Writing Consultant
WRITING & SPEAKING CENTER

Lathrop Hall 208
Colgate University
Hamilton, NY 13346

Hours:   Mon - Thurs 10:15 a.m. – 10:00 p.m.
         Fri 10:15 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
         Sun 4:15 – 10:00 p.m.

For more information or to reserve an appointment,
go to  http://www.colgate.edu/writingcenter
or call (315) 228-6085.