

CHALLENGES IN DEVELOPING WRITING EXPERTISE

Snapshots from the 2017 UCSC Graduate Student Survey



◆ HUMANITIES DIVISION ◆

Evidence of Low Writing Proficiencies among Graduating PhD Students



1 in 2 report low/no proficiency in writing **scholarly articles**
and in writing **for expert audiences**

1 in 5 report low/no proficiency in writing **funding proposals**
and in writing **for non-expert audiences**

CHALLENGES

LACK OF RESOURCES

1 in 2 are NOT confident about **how to seek assistance with their writing**

TIME MANAGEMENT

2 in 5 are NOT confident that they can **allocate time for writing,**
or **develop & follow timelines for drafts/revision**

PRESUMED COMPETENCE

1 in 3 are NOT confident about **speaking to their advisor about writing needs**

ACADEMIC WRITING

1 in 4 are NOT confident that they can **express their ideas clearly & concisely**

91%
*have never
co-authored with
faculty in a
peer-reviewed
journal or
conference
proceedings*

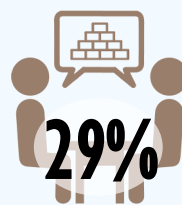


Critical Role of Primary Advisor



44%

did not receive useful guidance in
writing **grant/fellowship applications**



29%

did not receive useful guidance in
organization, clarity, & grammar

82%
*have never
assisted faculty
in writing
grant proposals*

Students who did receive useful guidance reported significantly **higher writing proficiencies**

Interest in a Variety of Writing Resources

LISTS OF RESOURCES



28% interested

**SUMMER WORKSHOPS
& RETREATS**



25% interested

WEEKEND RETREATS



24% interested

**DAYTIME & EVENING
WRITING WORKSHOPS**



19-22% interested

**ONE-ON-ONE
TUTORING**



19% interested