

# CHALLENGES IN DEVELOPING WRITING EXPERTISE

Snapshots from the 2017 UCSC Graduate Student Survey



◆ SOCIAL SCIENCES DIVISION ◆

## Evidence of Low Writing Proficiencies among Graduating PhD Students



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

**1 in 4** report low/no proficiency in writing **scholarly articles** and in writing **for expert audiences**

**76%**

have never assisted faculty in writing grants



**57%**

have never co-authored with faculty in a peer-reviewed journal

### CHALLENGES

#### ACADEMIC WRITING

**1 in 4** are NOT confident that they can **express their ideas clearly & concisely**, or **use discipline-specific terms & academic vocabulary**

#### WRITING PROCESS

**1 in 3** are NOT confident that they can **overcome writer's block**, or **develop & follow timelines for drafts/revision**

#### LACK OF RESOURCES

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

#### PRESUMED COMPETENCE

**2 in 5** are NOT confident about **speaking to their advisor about writing needs**

## Experiences that may Promote Writing Proficiencies

