Dissertation Boot Camp
Call for Participants

The Office of Graduate and Professional Education and the Writing Program are again joining forces to offer an intensive workshop for PhD students who are writing their dissertation or have found their writing progress stalled. In addition, those who have previously participated in a dissertation boot camp at the University of Delaware are also welcome to apply.

Participants will spend the majority of their time writing; however, the workshop will also include brief discussions on topics of common interest to dissertation students, such as motivation, goal setting, time management, and the writing habits of successful and prolific academic writers. Students accepted to this program will commit to attending a writing session from 10:00 a.m.-2:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, for two consecutive weeks.

The workshops will be offered June 7-18, July 19-30, and August 2-13, 2010. Writing Program faculty will provide time, space, and professional tutorial support to help students progress on their projects. Food will also be provided.

To apply, participants will write a brief proposal (no more than 300 words) explaining what they will accomplish during the workshop. In the proposal, please note which boot camp session is your first and second choice. In addition, faculty advisors must nominate their students for this workshop—a brief e-mail will suffice. Applicants will be chosen based upon time to degree completion, the importance of the workshop at this stage of the project, and broad disciplinary representation.

Applications are due May 1st, and should be e-mailed to Michael McCamley at mccamley@udel.edu.

Here is what previous participants had to say:

“The boot camp was helpful because it got me into the routine of writing every day and forced me to evaluate my writing process and figure out what works and does not work for me.”

“I wish I had attended something similar at the beginning stages of my dissertation—it would have really helped me ‘visualize’ (and not be frightened of) the writing process. But, it was completely helpful to a mid-stage writer too as a way to revive momentum.”

“Figuring out how to write a dissertation in (almost!) fifteen minutes a day was priceless. When I'm not writing, I'm at least thinking, outlining, and organizing every day. I hold the boot camp at fault for this aberrantly responsible behavior. Arguably, I probably advanced down my writing timeline a good 1—2 months (at previous pace) in just the first 2 days—all from talking through my thesis ideas at the boot camp.”
DISSERTATION BOOT CAMP
APPLICATION

Name:

E-mail address:

College:

Department:

Dissertation Topic or Title:

Advisor:

Please ask your adviser to send Professor McCamley brief e-mail nominating you for the workshop.

Proposal: (300 word limit) You can either enter your proposal here or attach a document.

Applicants will be chosen based upon time to degree completion, the importance of the workshop at this stage of the project, and broad disciplinary representation.

Please number the workshop dates in order of preference (1 being your first choice and 2 being your second choice):

June 7-18: _________
July 19-30: _________
August 2-13: _________

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