

# ENGLISH 4243/6243: WRITING CENTER TUTORING

Website: [www.bullygoodtutoring.wordpress.com](http://www.bullygoodtutoring.wordpress.com)

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## Course Description

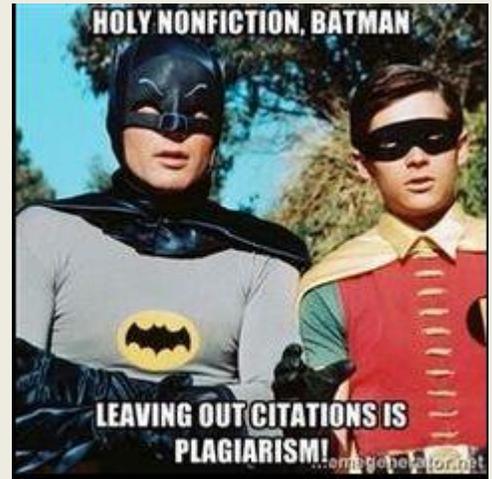
Did you know we have FOUR writing center locations on our campus?! If you are a graduate student in the English Department, you will likely be working in the writing center as part of your assistantship. If you are an undergraduate student or a graduate student from outside of the English Department, this course will give you the opportunity to intern in the writing center, to hone your own writing skills, to work with writers one-on-one, and to build your CV or resume.

The beginning of the semester will prepare you for your work in the writing center; therefore, we will start the course with readings that introduce you to practical tips and tricks from veteran writing center tutors and administrators related to face-to-face tutoring, online tutoring, and ESL student tutoring. As the semester moves forward, we will engage with readings that discuss the underlying socio-political and economic contexts: the historical and ongoing exigencies for writing centers that have and continue to influence writing center theory and practice. Finally, we will engage with readings that will introduce you to historical and contemporary writing research and theory. Readings are meant to provide a foundation for you to springboard from as practicing tutors and writers who will be building your own histories, theories, and practices.

In light of this, the course will provide you with the opportunity (1) to experiment with and critically reflect on different tutoring practices and spaces, (2) to observe both others and yourselves as writers and tutors, and (3) to engage in empirical research that arises out of unanswered questions you encounter in your tutoring, course readings, and course discussions. You will leave the course with the knowledge, experience, research tools, and theories-in-the-making to help you to communicate with and mentor others pursuing the (sometimes frustrating and intimidating) adventure of making meaning on the ever changing page/screen.

## Course Activities

- ✓ Tutoring in the Writing Center
- ✓ Quick-Writes (weekly)
- ✓ Four writing center observations (f2f experienced tutor, online experienced tutor, peer tutor, and yourself)
- ✓ Empirical Research Design
- ✓ 7-10 page Research Paper
- ✓ Final presentation of Research Paper



Meme created by MSU WC staff and distributed via Twitter (@MSU\_WC) during Spring 2015.



Meme created by Sava Kolev for the course in Fall 2013.



Photo of MSU Graduate students presenting their course research project in Nashville, Tenn. at the annual meeting of the Southeastern Writing Center Association.