



What can you expect in a tutoring session?

When you walk inside the LRC for your first tutoring session, you can expect it to start with an introduction from your tutor, who is either an undergraduate or graduate student at LMU. After the usual greetings and lamentations over homework, your tutor will ask about the paper and if you have any written or verbal instructions your teacher provided. This is a great time to explain what you want help with, or where you are having trouble with the assignment.

When the objective of the paper is clear, the tutor will ask you to read your paper out loud to give you both a chance to actually hear your voice in the paper. After the paper is read, a discussion about what was good, what could possibly use work, and how you feel about what you have written will take place. Your tutor will then offer helpful advice on how to improve your paper, perhaps focusing on the thesis, the audience, the development, or the organization. If the paper is in its beginning phase, the focus can be on choosing an appropriate topic or coming up with some main ideas. On the other hand, if the paper is in its final stages, sentence-level concerns can be pointed out and addressed.

Of course, you are always encouraged to come back the next week if you feel the paper needs more work, or want to bring in the next draft of the assignment. Basically, a tutor is there to provide the help you need to create a well-written paper. That is, as long as it does not entail writing the paper for you!

Who is your tutor?

Your undergraduate tutor has received at least a B+ in the class she/he is tutoring, maintains a 3.5 or higher GPA, and was highly recommended by a professor. Your tutor has taken a 15-hour training course which combines composition theory and a tutoring practicum. The LRC also hires graduate students in the fields of English, philosophy, screenwriting, and education, among others.