



# Graduate Centre for Academic Communication

School of Graduate Studies

WINTER 2025  
COURSE SCHEDULE

The Graduate Centre for Academic Communication (GCAC) offers five types of instruction designed to target the needs of both native and non-native speakers of English: **non-credit courses, single-session workshops, individual writing consultations, boot camps, and website resources.** All our programs are free and open to graduate students at the U of T. Courses and workshops require registration, and consultations require an appointment. The resources page of our website provides links to useful online material related to academic writing and speaking. For further information, please visit our website at <https://www.sgs.utoronto.ca/resources-supports/gcac>.

## Courses

**The courses listed below require online registration.** Course descriptions and registration instructions can be found on our website. GCAC has five course sessions per year, starting in September, October, January, February, and May. Students may take a maximum of 2 courses in each session. **Students who enroll in more than 2 courses per session will be removed from all courses. Since our courses are in very heavy demand, we ask that you register only if you are certain you can attend the entire course. Please note:** All sections of a course cover the same material at the same level. Course sections differ only in the dates on which the course is run. **Divisional breakdown is as follows:** Division 1 – Humanities, Division 2 – Social Sciences, Division 3 – Physical Sciences, and Division 4 – Life Sciences. Synchronous courses will not be recorded, so attendance at the time of weekly classes is mandatory.

**JANUARY COURSES: REGISTRATION OPENS ON WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 11<sup>TH</sup> AT 10:00 A.M.**

COURSE		DAY AND TIME	DURATION	DELIVERY
<b>RESEARCH WRITING COURSES</b>				
Thesis Writing in the Humanities and Social Sciences (Divisions 1 & 2)	(5 weeks) Section 1	Fri 10am – 12pm	Jan 17 – Feb 14	Synchronous Online
Thesis Writing in the Physical and Life Sciences (Divisions 3 & 4)	(5 weeks) Section 1	Fri 10am – 12pm	Jan 17 – Feb 14	Synchronous Online
Communicating Science Through the Media	(3 weeks) Section 1	Sat 9am – 12pm	Jan 25 – Feb 8	Synchronous Online
<b>ACADEMIC WRITING COURSES</b>				
Graduate Writing 1: Establishing Your Foundation	(5 weeks) Section 1	Mon 2pm – 4pm	Jan 13 – Feb 10	Synchronous Online
	(5 weeks) Section 2	Thurs 10am – 12pm	Jan 16 – Feb 13	Synchronous Online
	(5 weeks) Section 3	Fri 1pm – 3pm	Jan 17 – Feb 14	Synchronous Online
Graduate Writing 2: Revising for Clarity	(5 weeks) Section 1	Tue 10am – 12pm	Jan 14 – Feb 11	Synchronous Online
<b>ORAL COMMUNICATION COURSES</b>				
Academic Conversation Skills	(6 weeks) Section 1	Tue 3pm – 5pm	Jan 7 – Feb 11	In-Person
	(6 weeks) Section 2	Thurs 10am – 12pm	Jan 9 – Feb 13	Synchronous Online
Oral Presentation Skills	(6 weeks) Section 1	Wed 10am – 12pm	Jan 8 – Feb 12	Synchronous Online
	(6 weeks) Section 2	Thurs 5pm – 7pm	Jan 9 – Feb 13	In-Person

**FEBRUARY COURSES: REGISTRATION OPENS ON TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 11<sup>TH</sup> AT 10:00 A.M.**

COURSE		DAY AND TIME	DURATION	DELIVERY
<b>RESEARCH WRITING COURSES</b>				
Prewriting Strategies for Developing and Organizing Your Ideas (All Divisions)	(4 weeks) Section 1	Wed 2pm – 4pm	Feb 26 – Mar 19	Synchronous Online
<b>ACADEMIC WRITING COURSES</b>				
Graduate Writing 1: Establishing Your Foundation	(5 weeks) Section 4	Mon 2pm – 4pm	Feb 24 – Mar 24	Synchronous Online
Graduate Writing 2: Revising for Clarity	(5 weeks) Section 2	Thurs 10am – 12pm	Feb 27 – Mar 27	Synchronous Online
<b>ORAL COMMUNICATION COURSES</b>				
Academic Conversation Skills	(6 weeks) Section 3	Tue 1pm – 3pm	Feb 25 – Apr 1	In-Person
Oral Presentation Skills	(6 weeks) Section 3	Wed 5pm – 7pm	Feb 26 – Apr 2	In-Person
	(6 weeks) Section 4	Fri 10am – 12pm	Feb 28 – Apr 4	In-Person

## Writing Centre Consultations: 1-on-1 Appointments

One-on-one consultations are available for students who seek individualized assistance with various aspects of their writing, such as outlining, structuring, evaluating clarity, and identifying stylistic and grammatical errors. The writing appointments are not proofreading sessions; they are designed to help students learn to evaluate and improve their own writing.

Appointments are 40 minutes long and are held either online or in the GCAC Writing Centre (Room MR108, 1st Floor, 12 Queen’s Park Crescent West.) Students may book up to 5 appointments per term.

To book an appointment, please visit <https://uoft.me/writingcentres>.

Information about other U of T writing centres can be found at <https://writing.utoronto.ca/writing-centres>.



**Synchronous Workshops**

Registration is required for [synchronous workshops](#). Each member of the U of T community is welcome to attend as many workshops as they wish.

LIVE WORKSHOPS SERIES	DATE	TITLE	INSTRUCTOR
Preparing Your 3MT Presentation (Online 5.30pm – 7pm ET and In-Person 2pm – 3.30pm ET)	Jan 14	Preparing Your 3MT Presentation (Online)	Dr. Cristina D’Amico
	Jan 17	Preparing Your 3MT Presentation (In-Person)	Dr. Cristina D’Amico
Getting Through Graduate Work: Monday Series Online 4pm – 5.30pm ET	Jan 20	Writing a Thesis or Grant Proposal	Dr. Jane Freeman
	Jan 27	Writing a Literature Review that Demonstrates the Need for your Research	Dr. Jane Freeman
	Feb 3	Framing your Research Conceptually and Theoretically	Dr. Jordana Lobo-Pires
	Feb 10	AI and the Modern Scholar: Generative AI and Academic Writing	Dr. Jane Freeman
	Mar 3	Writing Field Notes for Qualitative Research	Bradley Dunseith
	Mar 10	Conducting Interviews in Social Science Research	Bradley Dunseith
	Mar 17	Preparing for Archival Research	Dr. Matt Jones
Getting Through Graduate Work: Wednesday Series Online 4pm – 5.30pm ET	Mar 24	Preparing for Your Dissertation Defense	Dr. Jordana Lobo-Pires
	Jan 29	Finding Additional Granting Sources	Dr. Jay Olson
	Feb 5	Writing an Ontario Graduate Scholarship (OGS) Plan of Study	Dr. Jane Freeman
	Feb 12	Identifying and Contacting Potential Cross-disciplinary Collaborators	Dr. Samantha Jackson
	Mar 5	Choosing a Conference and Applying to Present	Dr. Matt Jones
	Mar 12	Improving Your Slide Design	Dr. Matt Jones
	Mar 19	Designing and Presenting an Effective Poster Presentation	Dr. Samantha Jackson
Improving Your Graduate Writing Series Online 4pm – 5.30pm ET	Mar 26	Formulating a Compelling Teaching Philosophy	Dr. Samantha Jackson
	Jan 23	Establishing Structural Coherence	Dr. Rachael Cayley
	Jan 30	Crafting Effective Sentences	Dr. Rachael Cayley
	Feb 6	Creating Movement	Dr. Rachael Cayley
February In-Person Workshop 1pm – 2.30pm ET	Feb 13	Building a Revision Process	Dr. Rachael Cayley
	Feb 7	Cultivating the Skills of Constructive Disagreement	Dr. Jane Freeman

**Asynchronous Workshops**

Registration is required for [asynchronous workshops](#). Each member of the U of T community is welcome to attend as many workshops as they wish.

Asynchronous online workshops are available on demand for the entire term. Sample titles of some asynchronous workshops are below. For a full list of workshop topics and registration links, go to the GCAC website at <https://www.sgs.utoronto.ca/resources-supports/gcac/workshops/#asynchronous>.

Advanced Grammar	Using Corpora to Improve Your Academic Writing
Writing Effective Literature Reviews	Communicating Research Beyond Academia
Preparing to Write a Grant Proposal	Managing the Increased Attentional Demands of Graduate School
Building Your Academic Vocabulary	Strategies for Developing Your 3MT Presentation
Writing IMRD Research Articles	Creating Accessible PowerPoint Presentations

**Listserv**

The GCAC Listserv is a broadcast list used to make weekly announcements about workshops, course registration dates and schedules, and operational dates of the Writing Centre. It is not a discussion list, and only one message is sent per week. **To subscribe to the list, send an email message to [listserv@listserv.utoronto.ca](mailto:listserv@listserv.utoronto.ca) (upper or lower case is acceptable). In the BODY of the message type a command of the form: subscribe gcac-l firstname lastname.**

**Scan the QR code to visit our website and follow us on Instagram for the latest news and announcements about our offerings!**

