

SSHRC Doctoral Scholarship Workshop

October 2, 2018
4:00-6:00 p.m.

Includes presentations from: the Faculty Associate Deans of Graduate Studies, a Current SSHRC Doctoral CGS Recipient, and the Writing and Communication Centre



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SOCIAL SCIENCE AND HUMANITIES RESEARCH COUNCIL
(SSHRC) DOCTORAL AWARDS

PRESENTED BY: ASSOCIATE DEANS OF GRADUATE STUDIES

SSHRC Doctoral Awards

- **Resources: GSPA website, SSHRC website**
 - Determine your eligibility
- **Evaluation Criteria for SSHRC:**
 - Past academic results
 - Program of study
 - Relevant professional and academic experience
 - Evaluations from Referees
 - Tips for reference letters (who to choose, what to provide them with)
 - Departmental appraisal

SSHRC Doctoral Awards

- **Process at UW**
 - Who will be reading your application?
 - Pay attention to dates - start early!
- **Readability**
 - Avoid numerous acronyms
 - Everyday language
 - Clearly state research questions
- **Avoid excessive detail**
- **Make use of space**
- **Proofread you're work! (the whole application, not just proposal)**
- **Solicit feedback from others in/outside your field**

Tips for writing your Research Proposal

- A clear introduction stating the relevance of research being proposed, or “who cares?”
- Does the proposal include a summary of the state of art, and findings so far?
- Does the applicant make clear the point of departure, and research question – will the question that is being asked advance knowledge in this field?
- Are the methods clearly described, are they appropriate for the question being asked?
- What about feasibility? Does the candidate have the necessary skills or guidance?
- Are there expected outcomes or hypothesis?

Advice from a Current SSHRC CGS Doctoral Recipient

October 2, 2018

Presented by: Luc Cousineau



I already have funding...why apply?

- Our funding is tied to work
- Outside funding frees you up for other opportunities
- It positions you
- Look at me and how great I am!

Start Early

- This might be the longest two pages you have ever written
- There are many small things that you need to get done
- Your referees should want to see your program of study

Think about your audience...

- Because of the social and inter-personal power structures into which we are imbricated as participants in the social contracts of gender and relationships, we are always already implicated, as white men interested in the project of gender equity, in the dangerous game of perpetuating the very structures which we oppose.

or

- Power, between people and in social settings, always plays a role in our roles and relationships. This fact is particularly important when white men, who are interested in working for gender equity, might use their power over others to help them “push their message.”

Be compelling...

- In August 2015, and again February 2016, the blogger Daryush Valizadeh (aka: Roosh V) ignited a storm of controversy and media coverage when he planned a series of men's "meet-ups" in major Canadian cities. A self-described "pick-up artist," Valizadeh's anti-feminist rhetoric is coupled with calls for a return of men as the rulers and controllers of public and private life (Valizadeh, 2015c), keeping women outside of the workforce (Valizadeh, 2015b), advocating for legalized rape (Valizadeh, 2015a), and for men to treat women like "a slut" (Valizadeh, 2013). These meet-ups were repudiated by local political leaders like the mayors of Toronto and Ottawa (CBC, 2015), local and national feminist groups who petitioned Canada Border Services with over 12,000 signatures to keep Valizadeh out of Canada (McKenna, 2015), and a group of female boxers, *The Toronto Newsgirls*, who promised to attend the 2016 rally with "gloves on" ready for confrontation (Leaper, 2016).

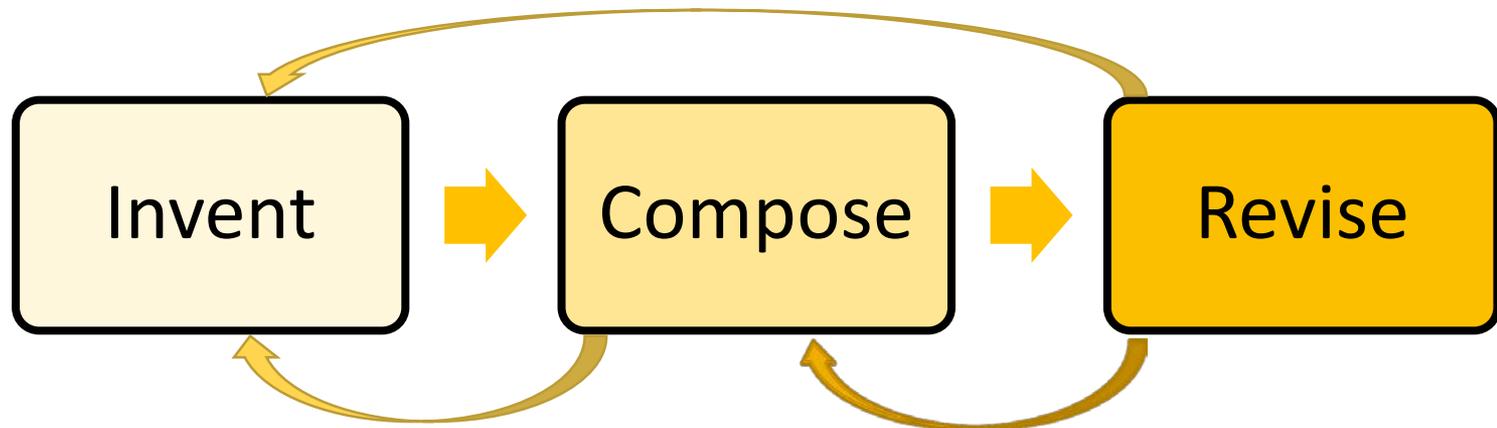
How can I help myself?

- There is **lots** of help
- Look at successful applications, but in fields close to your own
- Ask your supervisors, or others in your department who have had success with SSHRC
- Remember when I said start early?
- If you don't apply, you certainly can't win
- Highlight what you've got – and keep working on things

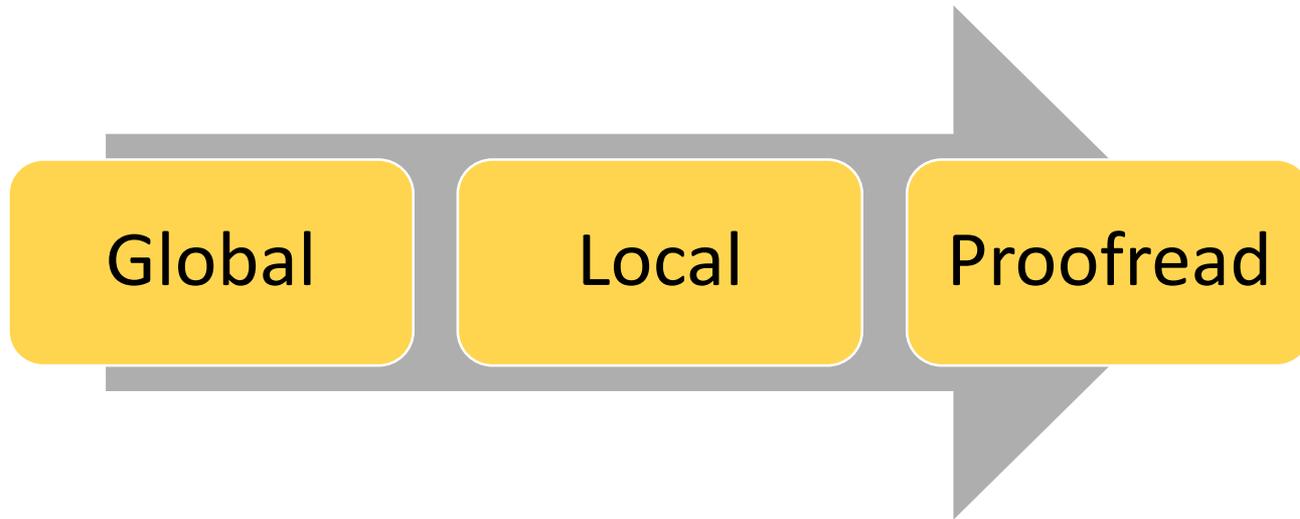
WRITING AND
COMMUNICATION CENTRE:

REVISION, PROOFREADING,
PEER REVIEW

The writing process is fluid and iterative



Stages of revision



Revision is the process of reviewing the “big picture” stuff – **content and organization.**



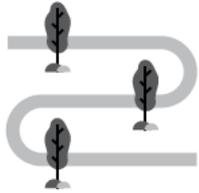
Global concerns

Editing is the process of reviewing the sentence-level stuff: **style and mechanics**.



Local concerns

Use **multiple strategies** to ensure a thorough revision process.



Get some **distance**



Print a **hard copy**



Read **aloud**



Work in **stages**



Review the **big picture** elements



Re-read



Get **feedback**

PEER REVIEW

Face-to-face



- Classroom
- Coffee shop
- Someone's home

Online



- Skype
- Google Hangouts
- Google Docs
- Portal

PEER REVIEW

Peer review is the process of working with your colleagues to read through each other's work and offer **feedback**.

Purpose

Interact



Models



Concrete Advice



Think & Learn



Practicing peer review can help improve your current proposal and your **revision skills**

- The value of **having** an outside reader:
 - Helps to assess clarity and coherence
 - Are readers “getting” what I think I’m saying?
- Seek out readers from a variety of perspectives
 - Within your field
 - Outside your field
- The value of **being** a reader/reviewer

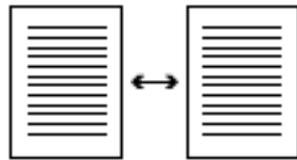


Effective peer review takes place through a combination of **conversation** and **active reading**.

Explain What to Look for



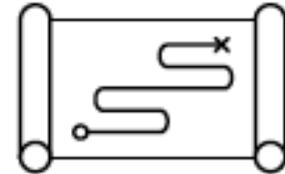
Exchange



Feedback for Improvement



Discuss & Plan



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Peer review step 1: identify your goals as the writer being reviewed

Name of Writer: _____

Name of Reviewer: _____

Notes from the writer to the reviewer:

Peer review step 2: silently (but actively) review your colleague's work, keeping their goals and concerns in mind

Aspect of Writing Being Reviewed: Content / Structure / Style / Mechanics

Component	Needs Significant Work	Needs Some Work	Needs Little/No Work
Criteria 1 (e.g., Clear thesis statement)			
Criteria 2 (e.g., Specific topic sentences)			
Criteria 3 (e.g., Use of transition words or phrases)			

Additional comments on writing:



Peer review step 3: have a constructive and collegial conversation; identify next steps

Post-Review Discussion

Action Plan: How will you (the writer) incorporate the suggestions of your reviewer into your edits? What steps will you take during the editing process? Be specific:

1.

2.

3.

Welcome to
and Communication
THE WRITING CENTRE



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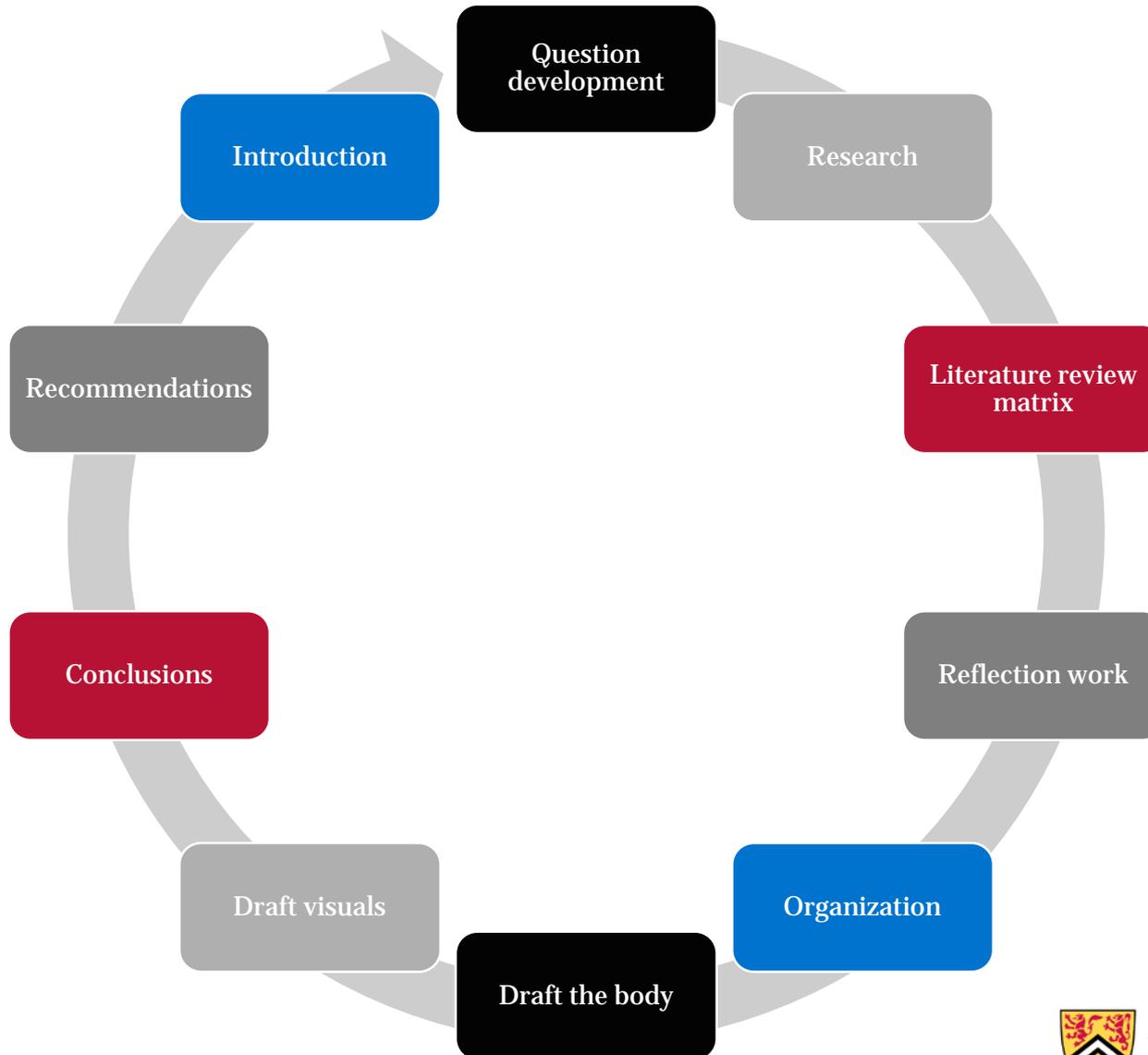
Our mission

“ As a hub of research and expertise, the Writing and Communication Centre will foster excellence in **written, spoken, and visual communication** within the University of Waterloo community. ”

Our mission

- Work with you to synthesize, integrate, and share **best practices** in communication
- Help you experience your work as others do
- Help you develop **skills and strategies** that last a lifetime
- Support and promote a lively, cross-disciplinary **writing culture** on campus and online

When can you come and see us?



Our services

- 50-minute one-on-one appointments
- 20-30 minute drop-in sessions
- Workshops on specific topics
- English speaking and writing practice
- Fundamentals for Writing your Thesis
- Dissertation Boot Camp
- Grad student writing cafés
- Speak Like a Scholar

Staff specializations: digital literacy, STEM, faculty/grad/postdoc, online learning, classroom-integrated support



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Preparing for your appointment

- Register using WCOOnline (except for drop-ins) – access through our homepage: uwaterloo.ca/wcc
- Bring a **hard copy** of your proposal
- Identify specific concerns or questions in advance
- Be ready to read, discuss, think, and write!

Special scholarship proposal drop-ins

Wednesday, October 10th

2:00pm to 4:00pm

SCH 219