

# Strategies for Graduate Writers

## Summer 2012

**Class meetings:** Friday August 10, 5pm to 9pm AND  
Saturday and Sunday, August 25-26, from 9am to 4pm

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### Description

Writing in professional graduate level programs requires clear, concise and systematic ways of communicating your ideas. The goal of this course is to provide students with opportunities to add new ways of writing to their current repertoires and thereby enhance their analytical thinking skills. Specific writing tasks will be drawn from the various graduate programs. All students will work through a series of low-stakes exercises intended to help them develop practices for getting started on writing projects, for working with new forms of writing (i.e. an analytical memo or an integrative essay), for integrating other writers' thinking into their own work, for reviewing and revising their own work, and for providing support for other graduate writers. The purpose of the course is to make sure students have useful writing strategies to practice throughout the academic year.

Class time will be used for seminar conversations about course readings, lots of interactive writing workshops, and quiet writing time. Students need to bring their books and writing materials to class—laptops encouraged! Moodle will be used for sharing drafts of exercises between the first meeting and the follow up weekend-session. Expect a welcoming, supportive yet focused class environment.

**Preparation for course:** At least one week prior to the start of class—or upon registration--send a paragraph summarizing your reasons for taking this course and, if you have one, a sample of your writing from an academic or a work setting, to [lardnere@evergreen.edu](mailto:lardnere@evergreen.edu).

### Texts:

*Rewriting: How to Do Things with Texts*, by Joseph Harris; Utah State University Press, 2006

*Wild Mind*, by Natalie Goldberg; Bantam Books