Writing Matters!

Introduction to Giving Effective Feedback
Why is Good Feedback Important?

- Instructor expectations vary
- Course expectations vary
- Pedagogy through feedback
- Students may not know
- Don’t assume the worst!
Effective Feedback

Focus on the **CONTENT** and **WRITING**

Feedback on **Higher-Order Writing Concerns** will improve articulation of subject-specific content.
FEEDBACK TRAPS:
Grammar & APA

What can the student absorb?
• Focus on 2 to 5 issues
• Provide resources
• Hold students accountable

What can you provide?
• How much time can you reasonably spend?
• You’re not a copy editor!

What does the rubric prioritize?
• Focus on content first
• Weigh your investment
• “Is issue really a problem?”
TIME MANAGEMENT: Choose Your Battle

• Utilize Turnitin

• Skim the paper first

• Focus on 2 to 3 grammar/APA issues only

• Direct students to resources
TIME MANAGEMENT: Harvest Your Comments

• Utilize the Effective Writing Feedback Playbook
• Add feedback comments to Waypoint
• Comment Model:
  - State the issue
  - Explain the impact
  - Describe how to address
  - Ideally provide a resource
TIME MANAGEMENT:
Class-wide Comments & Mini Lessons

• For common issues, give class-wide feedback
• Make prompt, rubric, and models available – reference them in your comments
• Use Writing Center samples and resources (https://writingcenter.uagc.edu)
• Give APA and Grammar instruction through Mini Lessons
Feedback Best Practices

1) BE DIRECT

Example: Books, movies, and journals should be *italicized* and not in “quotation marks.” This should be *Essentials of College Writing*.

2) AVOID OPEN-ENDED QUESTIONS

Ineffective: “What do you mean here?”

Effective: “How might you phrase this to a reader who is unfamiliar with the text?”
Feedback Best Practices

3) **HYPERLINK TO RESOURCES**

*Example:* Use the [APA Introduction](#) for help with title page, headers, and page numbers.

4) **MODEL WHAT YOU EXPECT**

*Example:* Include a **thesis** at the end of the intro. It must be your opinion on your research question. Ex: Because of X, Y, and Z, customers [should/should not] be informed if a product contains genetically modified foods.
How to Enhance Our Feedback

Please be sure to address the assignment prompt.

Your paper is not organized in a logical way.
Enhancing Feedback #1

*Ineffective*: “Please be sure to address the assignment prompt.”

*Effective*: You included an informative overview of your topic, but this assignment should have been an annotated bibliography that includes 5 sources, not an essay. For help with annotated bibliographies, please see this resource: https://writingcenter.uagc.edu/annotated-bibliography
Ineffective: “Your paper is not organized in a logical way.”

Effective: I noticed that you have all pieces of the required assignment, but your paper is not organized in a way that your reader can understand your argument. Consider writing an introduction (with a clear thesis statement), and then build your body paragraphs so they are focused on one piece of your argument at a time. For additional help, see the sample outline I posted in the course announcements.
THE END

Thank you!