

Tips for a Great History Writing Center Appointment: For Authors

1. BYOC (Bring Your Own Copy!) Bring a hard copy of your paper to your appointment. It saves time in your appointment!
2. Bring a copy of your assignment prompt and **ANY** notes you have on the assignment from your instructor. Consider explaining to your tutor how you have made sense of the assignment.
3. Bring any notes your instructor provided on earlier drafts of your current assignment or even on past assignments. This can be incredibly helpful for tutors! Remember our goal is to help you improve your writing!
4. Visit our website prior to or even after your appointment:
<https://clas.uiowa.edu/history/teaching-and-writing-center>
5. HWC appointments last 30 minutes (at minimum). Because tutors will often need time to review your work, some appointments can last up to 45 minutes. Consider this when scheduling your appointment.
6. HWC appointments are difficult to acquire during peak times of the semester (think midterms and finals, etc.). Consider making your appointment for earlier in the semester! Remember that HWC tutors are happy to work with you during any stage of the writing process: we can assist with brainstorming and outlining, with first drafts, and with final drafts!
7. Be honest with your tutor regarding your concerns on an assignment. If you are concerned about the strength of the argument, do not ask your tutor to review your citations. Time can run out quickly during a 30-minute appointment!
8. Please do NOT ask a tutor about grades. We do not know. We are not oracles.
9. Please be respectful and open to tutor suggestions during your appointment. Tutors only want to improve your writing so please be open to their feedback. Writing is difficult and can be emotional. Please feel free to ask for a break if you are feeling overwhelmed.