Writing Resources and Support for Cornell Graduate/Professional Students

Writing Consultations
Getting feedback to drafts is a normal part of the academic writing process. Peer tutors at the Graduate Writing Service (http://www.arts.cornell.edu/knight_institute/walkin/GWS.htm) offer one-on-one consultations for graduate students seeking feedback on all kinds of written work. This year, ELSO lecturer Shirley van der Veur will be offering consultations to international graduate and professional students on writing projects and oral presentations. Writers may visit just once to discuss questions or short projects or visit multiple times to sharpen drafts and build more effective writing skills. To schedule an appointment, go to https://cornell.mywconline.net.

Proposal, Thesis, and Dissertation Writing Boot Camps
These events help graduate students jumpstart their writing, develop goals and schedules for writing (and degree completion), and become more productive writers. Held two to three times a year for up to 50 students, the next Boot Camp is scheduled for January 7-14, 2015. For more information, contact Jan Allen (jan.allen@cornell.edu).

Productive Writer listserv
Started in January 2013 and now with over 12,000 subscribers from 297 graduate schools in 18 countries, graduate students, postdocs, and faculty receive postings twice a month with strategies for becoming a more productive writer. Topics include managing time for greater productivity, reducing distractions, staying motivated, revising/editing, binges writing (don't do it!), working with advisors and editors, overcoming writer's block, managing procrastination and perfectionist tendencies, and creating a writing support group. To subscribe, go to http://visitor.constantcontact.com/manage/optin existence/ea?c=0127114_ERPAtFtvYJZy5gXw/92953D.

Write-In
Graduate and professional students with writing goals and deadlines are invited to the Big Red Barn every Monday-Friday, 8:00 to 11:00 a.m., to write. Be more productive and accountable; write with a supportive community. Quiet zone enforced; coffee and tea provided. For more information, go to http://www.gradschool.cornell.edu/event/thesis-and-dissertation-grad-write.

Resources for Writing Competitive Fellowship Applications
The Graduate School offers a series of fellowship prep workshops, consultation, peer review, and an informative website (http://www.graduate-menter.com/graduate-fellowships-overview). Among other graduate “survival skills” information, this site includes a section devoted to identifying fellowships for which you are eligible, a template for preparing a first draft of a fellowship application, strategies for getting strong letters of support, pitfalls to avoid, and tips from successful applicants.

Writing and Speaking Courses for International Graduate and Professional Students
The English Language Support Office (ELSO) offers three courses to international graduate and professional students: WRIT 6100 Oral Communication (fall and spring), WRIT 6400 Academic Writing (fall and spring), and WRIT 6600 Advanced Academic Writing (spring only). All courses are S/U and 3 credits. For course descriptions and application forms, go to http://www.arts.cornell.edu/knight_institute/international/writing_speaking.htm.

ELSO Friday Workshop Series
Available only for international graduate and professional students, this workshop series focuses on different aspects of writing and speaking. This semester’s workshops topics include: Creating a Writing Life at Cornell, Making Use of Cornell’s Libraries to Support Writing and Publication, Writing with Sources (without Plagiarizing), Writing to Critique, Designing an Effective Oral Presentation and Creating and Working with a Writing Group. http://www.arts.cornell.edu/knight_institute/international/workshops.htm.

ELSO Blackboard Site and listserv
International graduate and professional students can stay informed about English language support by joining in the “English Support for International Graduate and Professional Students" Blackboard site (students may self-enroll) and ELSO-L (contact Michelle Cox at michelle.cox@cornell.edu to join).