

GETTING STARTED ON YOUR WRITING ASSIGNMENT

Tips from Writing Tutors

OVERCOMING ANXIETY AND BOREDOM

- Break down the assignment into smaller parts.
- Build in activities that help you relax (e.g., going for a walk, drinking decaf tea).
- Reward yourself for completing a task.
- If you are not interested in the topic, ask why it might be interesting to other people.
- Find connections to your lived experience and your educational goals.



AVOIDING PROCRASTINATION

- Make a timeline. Set an earlier due date for yourself.
- Tackle a manageable chunk of the assignment every day to avoid doing so much the night before.
- Understand how you work and when you work best.

UNDERSTANDING EXPECTATIONS

- Read the assignment instructions 2-3 times. Summarize them in your own words.
- Look up terms and underline key words.
- Make notes in the margins.
- Think of different methods you can approach the assignment.



KNOWING IF YOU ARE GOING IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION



- Ask: What is the purpose of the assignment?
- Check your syllabus: How does the assignment relate to the course objectives?
- What does your instructor expect? Is there an additional audience, besides the instructor?
- Seek feedback from instructor and peers.