

Pre-Writing, Part 2: Graduate Writing Brainstorming Session

Purpose: This survey is meant to have you familiarize yourself with your topic. Knowing your topic is the first step to writing a lot about it. It will also help you to think about your writing process before you actually start writing. Perhaps you wish to engage with the writing process in ways that have been successful for you in previous assignments while changing practices that might not have worked as well.

What stage of the writing process are you at? _____

What is (are) your research topic(s)? _____

Why did you choose this topic? _____

Where do I focus most of my writing? _____

How much planning do I normally do before writing? _____

One thing that I think works for my writing process is: _____

One thing I would like to change about my writing process is _____

What additional research areas have you considered or think you might want to explore? Use the list below to list topics that you are still considering adding to your topic. You may find that you have a use for them later. If you are undecided on a topic, you should also use this list to explore topics:

- Three writing-research intense papers you've written that you think are especially developed

Title: _____ Topic: _____

Title: _____ Topic: _____

Title: _____ Topic: _____

- Three research articles/texts that you recently enjoyed:

Title: _____ Topic: _____

Title: _____ Topic: _____

Title: _____ Topic: _____

How would you develop or combine some of these ideas into a research question? What relationships exist between these topics? See **Graduate Writing Support Activity A.3 – Exploring Topics**.