

# Graduate Centre for Academic Communication (GCAC): What We Offer

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## What do we offer?

We **provide advanced training in academic writing and speaking** to graduate students through five types of programming:

- short non-credit courses
- workshops
- boot camps
- a writing centre
- talks given by invitation in graduate departments

[Annual Course Schedule](#)

## When are our programs offered?

- 3-6 week courses are offered in six sessions
  - Offered throughout the year
- Oral Presentation Skills and Academic Writing for multilingual speakers
  - Offered in most sessions
- Writing NSERC/CIHR/SSHRC Proposals
  - Offered in May and August

[Overview of GCAC Programming](#)

## Which students in your department might benefit from your help to find GCAC?

### **New and returning grant writers**

Many students have never written a grant proposal until they arrive at graduate school. We offer courses on writing SSHRC, CIHR, and NSERC proposals in August and May, which combine lectures, tutorials, and opportunities for students to get feedback on their draft proposals. A link to descriptions of next summer's grant-writing courses can be found [here](#).

### **Multilingual students**

We offer [three courses on academic writing for L2 speakers](#) (students who learned English later in life) as well as a course on [Academic Conversation Skills \(ACS\)](#). We offer these courses in multiple sections throughout the year. The ACS course is also offered in an intensive format in mid-August for newly arriving multilingual students.

### **Students learning to become more confident/productive writers**

No matter how many languages a student speaks, academic writing at the graduate level is challenging for many. Through courses on [Prewriting Strategies for Developing and Organizing Your Ideas](#) and on [Becoming a Better Editor of Your Own Work](#), we help students develop conscious strategies for clarifying their thinking and writing at all stages of the writing process. Students who seek individual support with particular writing challenges can book appointments at the [Writing Centre](#).

## Nervous public speakers

Our synchronous and asynchronous [Oral Presentation Skills](#) courses give students a chance to hone their presentation skills, to rehearse in front of an audience, and to get feedback.

## Dissertation/Research-article writers

In addition to our five-week courses on Writing Research Articles and on Thesis Writing in different divisions, we offer [Dissertation Boot Camps](#) (3 days) and a [Research-Article Boot Camps](#) (2 days) for students who want to immerse themselves in their writing process for a few days to build confidence, find community, and explore strategies for establishing productive daily writing routines.

If you would like to arrange for a faculty member from GCAC to come speak at your departmental orientation, or to give a guest talk in a course within your department, please feel free to contact Dr. Jane Freeman, Director of GCAC at [jane.freeman@utoronto.ca](mailto:jane.freeman@utoronto.ca).

### Contact Information

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**Location:** GCAC is on the first floor of the McMurrich Building, 12 Queen's Park Crescent West.

**Website:** <https://www.sgs.utoronto.ca/resources-supports/gcac/>