Resources and Strategies for Teaching Writing

1. Tracy McCabe, Director of Writing Programs mccabe@lakeforest.edu. I can:

Consult about any topics concerning teaching writing, e.g. help you develop writing assignments to achieve your goals and that clarify your expectations for students

Lead in-class workshops tailored to your discipline and assignment on topics like:

- how to get started on papers
- how to develop a strong argument
- how to use evidence/sources
- how to avoid unintentional plagiarism
- how to edit for style and voice
- 2. Librarians (find the library liaison for your department/program). They can:
- Make <u>research guides</u> for your courses
- Write citations for sources you assign in your course (e.g those you have posted on Moodle)
- Provide group or individual help for students with research and citation
- TIP: include "Ask a Librarian" and "Request a Research Appointment" links on assignment sheets
- 3. Writing Center: Kate Oakley, Coordinator. oakley@lakeforest.edu. The Center:
- Provides online resources for <u>faculty</u> and <u>students</u>
- Provides tutoring. Please see online <u>FAQ</u> for faculty about how the Writing Center works and how to guide students in using the Center
- TIP: include key information about the Writing Center and link to scheduler on all assignments

Try a Process Approach to Teaching Writing

- Many of the problems you may see in the writing of inexperienced students occur because of how they approach writing projects
- They may not engage in practices like <u>these</u>
- Even though there is no "right way" to go about writing a paper, inexperienced writers benefit from guidance and instruction in these strategies
- Teaching students some of these strategies does not necessarily require significant class time or expertise on your part (or grading!)
- TIP: for every writing project, assign students to write a brief reflection (not for a grade) on how they approached the assignment. The reflection will help them remember what they learned about their writing process and allow you to make suggestions. Ask them to answer simple questions like: How did you go about writing the paper? What worked? What would you do differently next time? How did you apply my feedback on your previous writing?