How to Make the Most of a Writing Appointment

It is important to remember that writing tutors are undergraduate peers who are not a substitute for your professor. We always encourage students to talk with their professor about concerns they have before submission. Whether it’s about the reading, expectations, or the assignment itself, your professor knows best.

The second most important thing is to bring your course materials. If you don’t understand the reading, but brought questions and notes, we can help! If you haven’t done the reading and don’t bring materials, it makes it much harder for us to utilize the time in the appointment together.  To make the most out of an appointment, try to be as prepared as possible.

What Can a Writing Tutor Help With?

* Tutors **can**help with developing your own ideas and mapping an outline
* Tutors **cannot**tell you what to write
* Tutors **can**help with understanding your mistakes
* Tutors **cannot**“fix” your paper
* Tutors **can**help you improve your writing skills
* Tutors **cannot**predict what grade you will get

It is very important that you try to work with your tutor, rather than asking that they do the work for you.

This is just a reminder that copying what the tutor says word for word is plagiarizing; this is considered cheating and violates SCSU’s policies around academic conduct.  You must use your own words when writing. It can be difficult, but that is what our tutors are here for.