MISSION STATEMENT: The Vermont Academy Writing Center is a space for students to develop more effective approaches to the writing process through collaboration with a tutor.

PHILOSOPHY: The Writing Center offers a comfortable and inviting environment where students can go to become better writers by speaking with a writing tutor about their work. Our focus is to build writing and revision skills in the writer, rather than on fixing the piece of writing itself. We are therefore student-centered and process-oriented in our approach. The Writing Center offers questions instead of corrections, support instead of criticism, and understanding instead of evaluation. By keeping the piece of writing and all decisions for revision in the hands of the writer, we help students learn more about themselves as writers and encourage them to use that insight to refine their writing process.

What we do offer at the Writing Center:
- Assistance in thinking through any stage of the writing process, from understanding the assignment and getting started through final revisions and polishing.
- An opportunity to hear an outside reader’s response to a piece of writing you’re working on, including what is and isn’t clearly communicated in the piece.
- Help with any kind of writing in any subject area, including formal essays, creative writing, lab reports, Spanish compositions, and other writing assignments.
- Assistance with the writing process for non-native speakers of English.
- A sympathetic ear for your frustrations with the writing process.

What we don’t offer at the Writing Center:
- A “fix-it” shop for your papers. Tutors will coach you through the process of improving on your work, but they will not do it for you. The paper remains in the hands of the student throughout the session.
- A guaranteed “A” grade on an essay. Tutors will offer suggestions, but the responsibility to make improvements to the paper belongs to the student.
- Last minute help on a paper. Please schedule an appointment in advance of the assignment’s due date to give yourself time to make the necessary improvements before the paper is due.