



NAYLOR WORKSHOP

on Undergraduate Research in Writing Studies

2025 Proposal Form

Complete this fillable PDF form and upload it to the 2025 Naylor Workshop Undergraduate Researcher Application Google Form where prompted.

Name:

Institution:

Current Year: First Year Sophomore Junior Senior

Major:

Describe your proposed research question or proposed innovation: What is it you are trying to learn, or what innovation in the way we teach and tutor writing, are you investigating through your research? Remember that our workshop features mentoring, so we are open to research questions ***at any stage of development*** and/or ***any potential proposed innovation***, so feel free to think boldly and broadly. You can hem things in later!

Describe the need your research and/or innovation might fill: In what ways might teaching or tutoring writing be improved—made more effective, more equitable, more engaging for students, more suited to the world students will enter, etc. Try to describe a problem or deficiency, or an area of untapped possibility, in any setting: first-year classrooms, writing centers, local communities, courses for underrepresented or underserved populations, upper division writing, writing in disciplines, in writing majors, etc.

What research methods might you use to answer your research question and/or to pilot and assess your innovation? If your research is already in progress, describe the method of study and your work thus far. If not in progress yet, just tell us about some ways you might systematically research this topic. If you are proposing an innovation in the ways we teach and tutor writing, you might describe how that innovation could be tested (as a pilot version) and assessed (for further iterations based on what you find). If you're early in your research, just describe your best instincts—it's our job to help you develop the methods further.

What are the goals for the dissemination of your research. Limit your choices to your primary goals, but *check all that apply*.

Use to innovate teaching at my institution

Use to innovate tutoring at my institution

Use to improve literacy/literacy instruction on my campus or in my community

Present at a conference

Publish my work in an academic journal

Publish my work in a public venue

Use to apply to graduate school

Present in a class or at a college event

Use to support social justice work on my campus or in my community

Other

Tell us about our motives: (1) why this question is important to you as a researcher, (2) why it is related to the study of language and its uses, and (3) why it should be important to others interested teaching/ tutoring writing, education, or advancing social justice initiatives.

**Have you had the opportunity to present your research outside of the classroom before?
At your school? At a conference? Within your community?** If so, tell us about it. (Not a problem if you have not—we invite novice researchers as well.)

Tell us a bit about your own intellectual and personal interests—we really want to get to know you!
What brought you to the interests that you show in your proposal? Why does this kind of research matter to you personally?
What impact do you want your own research to have in the larger world?

One of the goals of the Naylor endowment—and of Writing Studies—is to advance social justice and literacy. Given the many challenges we currently face as a country to free speech, free and diverse expression, and care for the underserved, during this year's workshop, we are especially interested in ways that your work could support literacy and its relationship to ***democracy, free speech, and civic engagement***. If applicable, tell us about how your work will serve the interests of social justice on your campus and/or in your communities, and in the important spaces between the two.