

ME 250 SEMINAR: WRITING WORKSHOP

From First to Final Draft: Strategies for the Stages of Writing

Writing is hard. It's difficult to fit one's data and findings into conventional formats and it's difficult to communicate the significance of one's research. Additionally, the comments and writing advice that one receives from teachers, editors, and peers are often confusing if not outright contradictory. This session offers an approach to writing that cuts through that confusion. We will begin with a discussion of the value and limitations of general writing principles. Those limitations will help us to see that writing advice and writing principles need to account for the stage of the project that the writer is currently working on. The things a writer should focus on and care about while writing the first draft are very different from those that matter at the final stages. For simplicity's sake, I'll divide the writing process into three stages: beginning (writing a rough draft), middle (working on multiple revisions), and end (refinement). Building on this framework, I will offer strategies for effectively approaching each stage.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2020 | ZOOM | 11:00 AM - 11:50 AM



Benjamin Stewart

Benjamin Stewart is an instructional designer who has taught writing for over 20 years. Before moving to Riverside, he was the Director of Faculty Development at New York University's Expository Writing Program. He has a Ph.D. from NYU's Department of Performance Studies and an MPS from NYU's Interactive Telecommunications Program.