Spring Break 2019 Dissertation Writing Retreat

The Graduate School Office of Professional Development is pleased to offer a writing retreat for dissertation writers during Spring Break 2019. Open to graduate students from departments in all divisions who are at the dissertation-writing stage, this retreat offers extensive structured time to write and develop effective writing strategies alongside fellow dissertators.

*NEW SCHEDULE* In the past, the Dissertation Writing Retreats have run from 9am-4pm, Monday-to-Friday, which has included a daily 45min workshop on best writing practices and morning/afternoon reflection time to hone those practices. The Spring Break Dissertation Writing Retreat is different: we will cover best writing practices in a 3-hour Bootcamp on Friday afternoon, giving you the weekend to rest and prepare for the week. Monday-to-Thursday, from 9am-5pm, will be structured time to work, reflect on, and experiment with best practices.

*Participation for the entire retreat is mandatory; participants should not plan to arrive late or leave early.

During the retreat, graduate student writers will:

- Practice setting and achieving short- and medium-term goals for writing.
- Share goals with fellow retreaters to build structures of accountability.
- Experiment with strategies for planning, getting started, drafting, and revising.
- Have sustained writing time to develop effective rhythms for writing and make significant progress on a lengthy piece of writing.

These writing retreats will be offered at NO COST through the support of the Graduate School. Childcare scholarships for up to $150 per family will be available from the Graduate School. Lunch, coffee, tea, and snacks are provided on all writing days.

Dates of Retreat: March 8 (2-5pm) and March 11-14 (9am-5pm)

How to apply:

Acceptance in the program is competitive, and acceptance is based on the strength of the completed application form. **Participants must commit to attending the entire retreat to be considered for acceptance.** Preference is given to dissertation writers. MFAs and those at the prospectus/proposal stage will be considered if space is available. Prior retreat participants are also invited to apply. **Complete this form to apply:** [http://bit.ly/2019SpringBreakRetreatApp](http://bit.ly/2019SpringBreakRetreatApp)

**DEADLINE:** Completed applications must be received no later than 11:59PM on Monday, February 18 (Presidents’ Day), 2019. Applicants will be notified of their application status by 5PM on Friday, February 22, 2019.

Please contact the Graduate School Office of Professional Development at opdwriting@umass.edu or 413-545-5347 with any questions.