

**Graduate Student Writing Workshop**  
**September 19 2013**



# Workshop Goals

- One goal of this workshops is to share and expose each other to one another's work and experiences in progressing through the research writing process.
- Another goal is to give students constructive feedback on their work in progress.

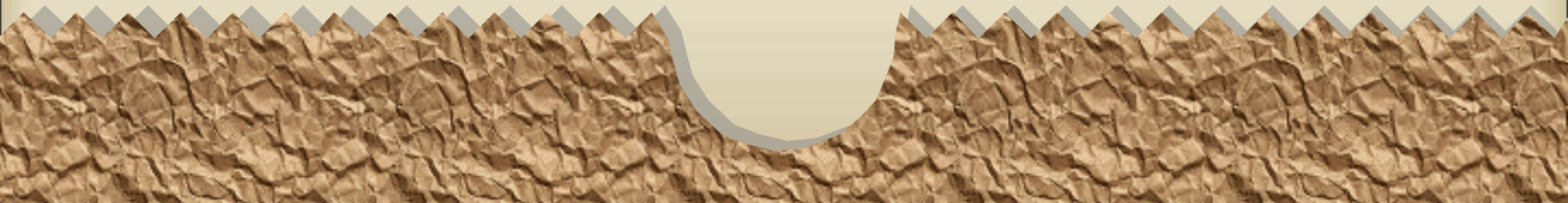
# Today's Topics

- Personal Goals
- Workshop Goals
- Rules of the Game
  - Responding to Other People's Writing
  - What You Want
  - What You Get
  - How You Respond

# Personal Goals:

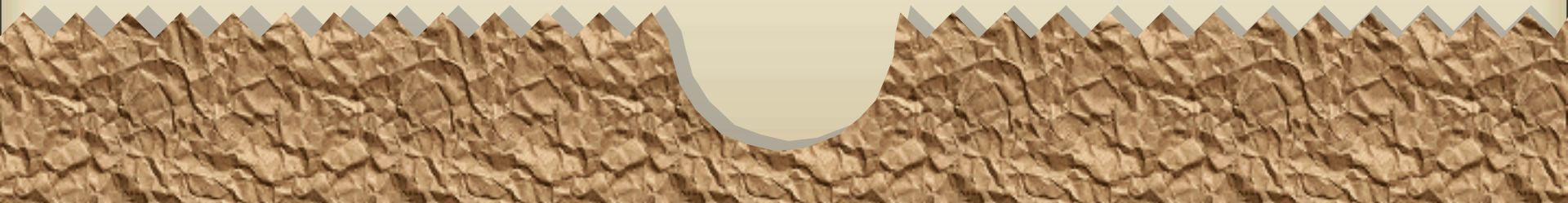
What do *YOU* want from the Writing Workshop?

- What do you want or need feedback on?
  - a specific document? certain types of documents? Specific parts of documents?
- What kinds of things do you think the group can help you with?
- How can you help others in the group? What are your strengths?
- What would be the best possible outcome for you from participating in this group?



# Rules of the Game

- Responding to Other People's Writing
- What You Want
- What You Get
- How You Respond



# Responding to Other People's Writing

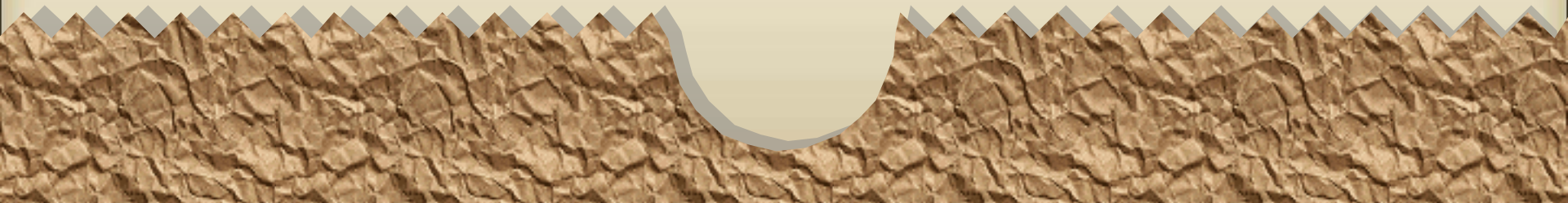
*See page 1*

- Say something positive about the piece.
- Critique the writing, not the writer.
- Speak from your own perspective.
- Remember that you are in a writing group to help one another improve.
- Talk about the way you responded as you were reading.

# Responding to Other People's Writing

*See page 1*

- Be specific.
- Whatever you say, imagine yourself on the receiving end of the comment.
- Tailor your comments to the writer and his/her needs.
- Write out key points that you want to share with the writer.
- Say something positive about the piece.



# What do you want from us?

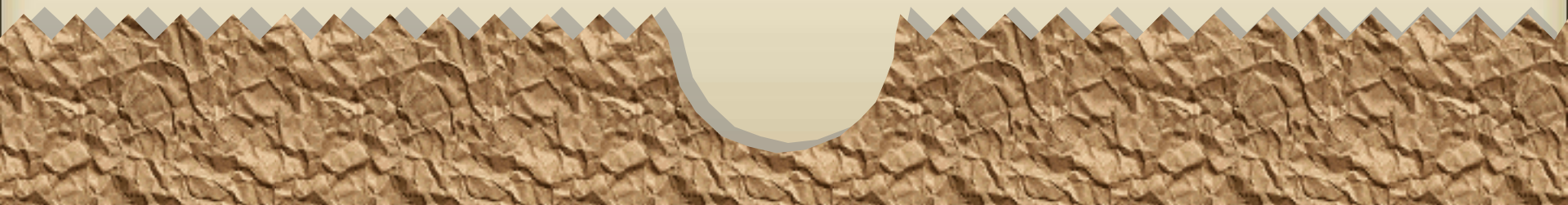
- What kind of feedback would be most helpful to you at this stage? *See page 2*
- Is there a specific part(s) of the paper that you would like the group to focus on?
- What do you think are the biggest strengths and weaknesses of this piece of writing right now?
- Do you want us to complete the *Manuscript Review Sheet*? *See page 5*



# What can we give you?

*See pages 2 & 4*

- I thought this piece would be about x, but realized it was about y.
- This part didn't seem to fit, was underdeveloped or I felt lost...
- The one thing I would change...
- The most interesting, best-written part was...



# How to React to Others' Responses to your Writing

*See page 3*

- The group is trying to help.
- Put yourself in the critic's shoes.
- Every reader is different.
- Try not to be defensive.
- Keep it in perspective.
- Listen to praise.
- Keep track of the feedback.

# Ideas for Upcoming Sessions?

- How and Why we Cite and Quote
- Writing Intros and Conclusions
- How to Write a Lit Review
- Student pieces? Idea stage? Drafts? R&Rs?
- Dealing with Writer's Block and Procrastination
- Formatting Documents, Tables, Figures, References

# Coming Up..

October 17<sup>th</sup>

- *Peer Review of the Research Proposal for Scholarship Applications*
  - Bring 4 copies of your 1-2 page proposal to the workshop.
  - We'll divide into groups of 2-3 people and review 1-2 proposals per group.
  - Please come as a reviewer if you don't have a proposal.

December 5<sup>th</sup>

- *Writing Abstracts: Getting Ready for CSA & SSSP*