SME Training: An annotated guide to Writing Center resources

The NAU Writing Center contains many resources that SMEs can use to enhance courses. These tutorial resources can help students learn about plagiarism, research, and the entire writing process. Please consider these following key resources from the NAU Writing Center when creating curricula, and don’t hesitate to email us (askalibrarian@national.libanswers.com) if you have any questions. NOTE: If the resource contains a visual component (video, animation, tutorial), it is indicated with a ‘Video’ button.

1) Grammar Tips
   - **What is it:** Tutorials consisting of PDFs and outside websites that offer grammar help to students.
   - **How to use it:** Provide to students, particularly the PDF, in introductory level writing classes.

2) Finding a Topic
   - **What is it:** Tutorials to help students find and choose good research topics. Pay particular attention to the “How to choose a Topic” video and the links to library resources, such as SIRS Researcher and Credo.
   - **How to use it:** Add to classes with a research paper component, particularly intro courses where students may not have had much experience with choosing research paper topics.

3) Researching a Topic
   - **What is it:** Tutorials aimed at helping students learn how to research -- including where to find information, how to use the NAU Library databases, how to evaluate information, and the differences between scholarly and popular press materials.
   - **How to use it:** Add to classes with a research paper component, particularly intro courses.

4) Organizing Research
   - **What is it:** Resources to help students organize their research, from reading and note-taking, to creating outlines and an annotated bibliography.
   - **How to use it:** Add to classes where students are asked to submit outlines or annotated bibliographies.

5) Brainstorming
   - **What is it:** Tutorials and tools to help students try different brainstorming techniques and help choose a topic. Both examples and blank templates are provided.
   - **How to use it:** Add to classes with a research paper component, particularly intro courses.
6) **Drafting**

- **What is it:** Resources to help students create their first draft, including tips on developing thesis statements.
- **How to use it:** Add to classes with a research paper component, particularly intro courses.

7) **Revising/Editing**

- **What is it:** Tutorials and other tools that discuss the importance of editing and give students tips on how to do it most effectively.
- **How to use it:** Add to classes with a research paper component, particularly intro courses.

8) **Writing Process Example**

- **What is it:** An example of a whole paper carried through the various writing process, from brainstorming through outlining, drafting, revising, and a final product.
- **How to use it:** Add to classes with a research paper component, particularly intro courses.

9) **Sample Papers (Available from the Writing Center home page navigation menu)**

- **What is it:** Examples of a reflection essay, research paper, and graduate paper.
- **How to use it:** These examples might be helpful to point students toward if they are in an introductory class where a particular writing style might be new to them.

**Additional Curricular considerations/guidelines:**

- **Faculty Resources on the Online Library website:**
  - Especially helpful for SMEs working on Writing Intensive classes is the [NAU Course Development Resource](#) – a PDF that presents useful ideas and resources for writing activities and assignments.