Meet Stan State’s Fall 2021 Writing Center Team
Andrew Boaru

About me:
• I am a 5th year biology major
• I love to watch and play all types of sports
• Alfredo pasta is amazing!
• Crystal Geyser is my favorite water

Things I love to do:
• I love to eat anything sweet.
• Watch sports
• Learn more about science and the world around me
• Pet my dog

Writing Center Attributes:
• I have been in the writing center for 3 years.
• The writing process is awesome and unique to each person
• I love to encourage students to outline
• I promote a "go for it" attitude and embrace the mistakes of writing.
Writing Center Things!

- Outlining is my best friend (and will hopefully become yours too!)
- Favorite part of writing—revising and breaking things down at the line level
- I have a background in creative writing as well as academic writing, so bring on the creative projects!
- Everyone is a writer!

About Me:

- Getting a Master’s in Literature and Rhetoric/Teaching Writing
- Earned a BA in English and French from University of Nevada, Reno
- Very involved with Stan State’s student-run publication Penumbra Literary & Art Journal!

Things I love to do:

- Rewatch *Remember the Titans*
- Read fantasy and literary fiction
- Spikeball, soccer, bball, being outside
- Bullet journaling

Hannah Neeley
(She, her)
Hi, my name is Daniyel Wiggins!
(it's pronounced just like "Daniel")

About me...
I am a fourth-year English major with a concentration in TESOL. I hope to teach English abroad and maybe write a book someday!

Some things I love are...
- My cats
- Listening to podcasts
- Cooking/Baking (I am 7+ years vegetarian!)

Writing Center Skills:
- I have been a tutor for 3 years (at CSUS, MJC, and privately)
- I have a HUGE passion for reading and writing that I love to share with others
- Collaboration – we all have something unique and valuable to offer!
Bernadette Mokhatas

About Me
I just graduated with a BA in English/TESOL
I will start MA program in fall 2021
I'm currently majoring in TESOL/RTW

Things I like to do
- Reading,
- writing,
- Listening to music
- Spending time with family and friends
- Cooking
- Gardening

Why I like the Writing Center
- I can work with wonderful people.
- Meet students from different cultures and backgrounds and learn about their stories.
- Learn how to work in a team.
- Keep growing and becoming more confident as an individual.

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Things I Love:
- My favorite baseball team is the Dodgers!
- My favorite sports include swimming and water polo.
- I love reading and listening to audiobooks!
- I love re-watching classic movies. (Disney, Action, Sci-fi, fantasy, animation)
- I love Halloween!!

About me:
- I am a liberal studies major with a concentration in special youth education.
- I hope to one day teach high school students.
- I am going into my sophomore year.
- Before I changed my major, I wanted to become a lawyer.

Why I love Writing/Tutoring:
- I have a passion for helping students!
- Writing allows our personality shine through!
- Everyone can learn something new from writing and tutoring!
- Writing allows you to escape from the real world.
I received my B.A. in English with a Single Subject Matter Preparation concentration at Stanislaus State, and I am currently a graduate student in the Rhetoric and Teaching Writing Program. I am incredibly passionate about writing, and I hope I can encourage students to embrace their writing voice and cultivate their craft. At the writing center, I tutor ESL students, undergraduates and graduates across all disciplines. I have experience with narratives, argumentative/persuasive/informative essays, annotated bibliographies, literature reviews, MLA/APA style, research papers/proposals, and I also assist students with grammar and rhetorical conventions.

I like to DJ, bike, paint, experiment with makeup and skincare, go on scenic drives, have picnic dates with my friends, visit art and history museums, make playlists, and sleep...a lot!

Ashna Singh (she/her) ♡
Kaila Burnett (she/her)
Psychology Major

Why I Like Writing & Tutoring:
- I love creative writing, poetry, and colorful narratives!
- I like helping other students to achieve their writing goals. It’s fun learning about other people's experiences and writing journeys :)
- Whether we're busy working, or if you need someone to talk to, I want to be here for y'all!

My Likes/Hobbies:
- I'm an artist! My latest craze has been creating epoxy resin charms ❤
- I love cats, especially my Siamese Gino 😊
- I love getting tatted! Yes, it's an addiction of mine...
- My favorite music genres are hard rock, grunge and metal

About Me:
- I'm a 4th year psych student working towards my B.A.!
- I strive to be a cognitive behavioral therapist someday :)

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Molly DeMayo  (she/her)

About me:
- Earned a BA in Psychology at CSU Sacramento
- Pursuing a Masters of Arts in Psychology, Behavior Analysis concentration

Why I like writing and tutoring:
- Helping people is my passion
- Writing was difficult for me - I want to ease the writing process!
- I love breaking down the process – I'm here for you!
- Meeting different people and hearing their experiences

Interesting Tidbits
- I love to squat, bench, and deadlift
- I enjoy watching anime, The Sopranos, and Ted Lasso
- I quote Spongebob daily (send memes my way)
- I enjoy racing in the Mario Kart Worldwide Lobby

I have an Instagram for my doggos! Follow them @pupper_friends
My name is Andrea Wagner (she/her)

I am...

- A graduate student in English Literature here at Stan State
- An eldest daughter with two younger siblings
- Interested in manga, anime, and rpgs
- On the Penumbra Literary and Art journal staff here at Stan State
- Very short. 5'0 to be exact

I like writing and tutoring because...

- I'm a big fan of short fiction and poetry
- Writing lets us dissect and engage ideas
- Tutoring and teaching is the best way to learn
  - Especially as someone who hopes to be a professor one day

I specialize in...

- Tutoring younger students in Writing and Literature
  - Especially for students who have learning disabilities
Halley Smith

- A few things to know:
  - Psychology Major
  - Love reading books, light novels, and manga
  - This summer I have been getting into DIY for decorating my apartment.

Why I like writing and tutoring:
- I like writing and tutoring because of the expressive nature of language and how much you learn during the process.
Karen Sanchez (she/her)

Things to know about Meself:

• Spanish Major w/ Latin American Studies Minor

• Bilingual, fluent in Spanish

• Transferred from Madera Community College

Fun Facts:

• Now watch lots of anime and read manga due to last years lockdown

• I LOVE playing with make-up as you can tell

• I suck at using Powerpoint, prefer Google Slides
Joy Ok (She/Her)

The Basics
- I am an undergrad majoring in English.
- This is my fourth year here at Stan State.
- This is also my first time as a tutor, so I am excited!

My Hobbies
- I love to play video games, read manga, watch anime.
- I go to a lot of conventions, such as FanimeCon, etc., but since Covid hit, it's on standby.
- I also love to swim, to shop, and honestly just having a good time!

Why I Like Writing and Tutoring
- I love writing because there's power in it. I know it sounds cliché, but writing can literally change how we see and understand the world around us. I also like to tutor because well, who doesn't want others to succeed and truly be the best writer they can be.
Matthew (He/Him)

Tutoring has given me a path to follow academically and professionally, and for that I am very grateful. I have been a writing tutor for the past six years, working in the center and in classrooms with both native and multilingual writers.

I'm currently enrolled in the English master's program, with the goal of teaching writing and cultivating more voices among college writers.

I got bullet points!

- I am always listening to pop/dance music (Hello, AirPods!)
- I reside in Modesto, but don't hold that against me
- The most American thing about me (other than my accent) is my love of cheeseburgers
- I wear a ton of pink, and I am into geometric shapes and floral patterns
- Currently growing a perfume collection.
- Just a Pisces reaching for the stars
- Personality Type: INFJ
Julissa Prado (she/her)

Psychology Major w/ Minor in Criminal Justice
Bilingual (Spanish)
First-gen college student

I crocheted my dogs a blanket

I love all things creative, weird, funky, and eccentric!

I binge crime tv and true crime (and F.R.I.E.N.D.S)

Converse are my favorite shoes

*I know, completely opposite of this slide

Writing + Tutoring

First year as a tutor
I want to help students gain confidence in their writing abilities
I enjoy freewriting
Allan Quintero Barajas (He/Him)

About me:
My name is Allan and I am a Political Science major. I am a transfer student from MJC and I am also a pre-med.

Writing Center:
I truly enjoy the process of writing as it can be difficult, yet very rewarding as it allows me to effectively express my views. I also enjoy tutoring as it is very rewarding to get to help your fellow students. I tutored for a year and a half during my time at MJC and enjoyed every minute of it!

Interests and hobbies:
• I like to read manga and watch anime
• I also enjoy making abstract paintings and selling them online
• I love Star Wars!!
• I also like to play video games with my friends
Autumn Andersen (She/her)

About Me:
- I am a recent graduate of Stan with a BA in English and minor in Ethnic Studies.
- I am enrolled in the MA English program at Stan concentrating in literature.
- I plan to focus my studies on multicultural literature especially Latinx literature.
- I am part of the Penumbra staff and excited to be with the journal.

Writing Center
- I started tutoring for the Writing Center in 2017.
- I enjoy tutoring with the Writing Center because I get the opportunity to talk and learn about writing on a regular basis.
- My favorite part about writing center tutoring is watching a writer become more confident in their writing.

Things I Love to do:
- Spend time with my family especially my two kids!
- Watch sports especially the USWNT & Raiders.
- Write fiction (maybe I will finish my book one day).
- Read, binge watch TV, and listen to podcasts.
Hello, I am Rosa Naranjo (she/her)

**About me:**
- I recently graduated from Modesto Jr. College with an Associate of Arts Elementary Teacher for transfer.
- My major is Liberal Studies with a concentration in English and multisubject credential.
- I have taken several grammar classes throughout my education.

**Writing center**
- I like to help students build their confidence with their writing skills.
- I like to listen to students' ideas and learn from them.
- I speak Spanish which helps me understand the needs of bilingual writers.
- I love grammar.

**Thinks I love to do**
I love to exercise and ride my bicycle. I enjoy nature. And I am a true believer that a cup of coffee and a good book make life easier.
Hi, I'm Noelle!

I am a senior here at Stanislaus State and in my last year of my English BA. I have always had a great passion for reading and writing and want to inspire that in others.

When I have free time I watch movies and anime, paint with watercolors, and go to the gym. I'm a big solo traveler! I can't choose between tea and coffee - it's too hard.

My favorite things: Sacramento, spotify playlists, a room full of color and clutter, my grandparent's home, jasmine tea, & scrappy well-loved books.
I have always loved writing because of how much perspectives different forms of writing can bring. As for tutoring, I love getting to help others, especially when it comes to reading and writing, the things I love most! My favorite foods are Macaroni and Cheese, Quesadillas, and Pizzas. Favorite show: Stranger Things. I love to read books in my free time, play video games, or watch movies.
Hi, I am Esmeralda Fletes (she, her)

About Me:
• Graduate student
• Earned Bachelor’s degree in Liberal Studies with TESOL Certification
• Enrolled in the Multiple Subject Credential Program

Things I like to do:
• Play the ukulele
• Spend time with family and friends
• Read
• Lettering/calligraphy

Writing Center Info/Skills:
• I enjoy writing because I can express and create something that focuses on a given topic.
• I like tutoring because I like to see other students reach their writing potential.
• I am bilingual (Spanish & English)
• Outlining is important!
About me:
Hi there! My name is Nathan Madsen and I am a graduate student at Stan State. I earned my bachelor’s degree in English at Stan as well, and also got my teaching credential here.

Writing Center
-I love to create a positive atmosphere for students to work in
-I have been a writer myself for years now, and have instructed different levels of students when it comes to writing
-I am very easy to work with, and will help your writing to be the best that it can be!

Things I love to do:
-traveling
-cooking
-watching sports and documentaries
-spending time with my family and friends

Fiancé and I in Paris
Kyle Hughes (He/ Him)

About Me:
- I am a graduate of CSU Stan as of spring 2021 with a degree in English
- Currently enrolled in the credential program in order to become an English Teacher
- I am 24

Things I Love to do:
- I love doing anything nerdy, from DnD to computer games to Anime
- I also like going on hikes in areas with tall trees

Writing Center
- I began tutoring in Fall of 2020
- My favorite thing about tutoring at the writing center is watching people learn and grow throughout the semester.
- I also really enjoy helping students navigate their college resources, as it is a great feeling to help students save money or find the help they need.
Emily Ladonga (She/Her)

- I am an English Major
- I want to be an English Professor
- I am an Undergrad
- I have tutored at the Writing Center and love it. I love helping and connecting with people

Interesting Facts

- I have two daughters (Hazel, Aria) and a stepson (Draven). Three cats (Chuck, Apple, and Taco) and a dog (Miki).
- I love Creative Writing and am currently in the middle of writing two books and numerous poems.
- I am a nerd and proud

Hobbies

- I love creating Art, painting, knitting, writing, singing.
- I love reading, and watching British TV
- I love playing video games
Hi, I'm Jovanna Arzate

**About me:**
- I transferred from Merced College
- My major is Liberal Studies with a concentration on TESOL
- Bilingual
- First-Gen College Student
- This is my last year at Stan State
- **Things I like to do:**
  - Listen to music
  - I like campfires and enjoying nature.

**Writing Center:**
- Bilingual (Spanish/English)
- I like to help students and help them be successful.
- My goal is to make the writing process easier for students.
- I love writing because you can express yourself.
Hey! My name is Jenni Fisher

About me:
I am a transfer student from MJC. I'm majoring in communication and minoring in psychology. I was a research assistant to 5 communication professors while attending MJC and I loved it. When I grow up, I want to do PR work for hospitals. I am a stroke survivor which means I am patient, persistent, and a great listener.

My hobbies:
-I love anything outdoors
-Don't care for sports (sorry, not sorry)
-I'm kind of an adrenaline junky (bungee jumping, sky diving, solo camping, etc)
-Anything involving camping, hiking, campfires, and ghost stories is my jam :-)

Writing Center:
- This is my first semester at the CSU Writing Center. I'm looking forward to meeting all of you
-My goal is to help my fellow students reach their writing potential
-Express yourself through writing!
Hello, my name is Ramika!

About me:
- I am a 3rd year majoring in Political Science & Psychology
- I love photography and anything art related
- I can't go a day without listening to music!

Why I love the Writing Center:
- It's a great opportunity for me to help others
- Everyone is kind & positive
- I get to develop my own writing skills, along with the students
- I get to learn something new every day!
Hello! My Name is Kiowa Nicholson

About Me:
- MJC Transfer who majored in English and Child Development
- Worked in education for 5 years! (Avid Tutor 7/8th, Afterschool Program K-8th, and Pre-K substitute)
- Future high school English teacher!
- In my free time I love to build puzzles, read, and/or watch movies. (What are your recommendations?)
- I also love Halloween and pumpkins!

Name: Kiowa (Kh-eye-oh-wa)
Iowa with a K)

Pronouns: She/Her/Hers

Major: SSMP English & TESOL

I Love Our Writing Center! We...
- Build connections!
- Are supportive of individualized writing goals!
- Provide a positive and non-discriminatory space!
- Foster an environment for growth!
Hi, I'm Alexandra!

Writing Center:
- Began tutoring in Fall of 2020
- It's exciting to see students explore and develop their own writing process
- I am able to help others with their writing directly, even online

About me:
- Changed my major from English (TESOL) to Computer Information Systems
- I love my dog and cat
- I love to bake
- I love to study languages
Hello, I'm Lalayna!

Name: Lalayna Hablutzel (pronouns = she/her)
Major: Biology

About me:
● I am a graduate student (I also got my BS from CSU Stan)
● I love being outdoors and drawing in my free time
● I enjoy doing research here at CSU Stan (in the lab and at our local National Wildlife Refuges)

Why I like the writing center:
● Writing IS difficult, so having a place to get help is important
● The collaboration between tutors and students
● Learning something new
Hello, my name is Allison and I'm an English Major! (She, Her)

- I enjoy tutoring because I like being able to assist others in finding their own written voice.
- I began tutoring when I was completing my GE courses at Modesto Junior College in 2018.
- I collect framed specimen! I have all kinds of creepy crawlies.
- I am also a licensed cosmetologist and I currently cut hair at a men’s hair salon here in Turlock.

^^^ This is Mia! She is 5 years old and loves being an only child/kitty! She only weighs 6lbs but that doesn't stop her from having a huge attitude!
Hello, I'm Katelin

I am a cultural Anthropology major graduating this semester. I am also completing the TESOL certification.

I like writing because it is a form of expression and I find it therapeutic. My favorite form of writing to tutor are research papers and personal statements.

I am also a tutor for Pandemic Professors, a nonprofit organization established during the pandemic to lessen the impacts of educational inequality K-12 students from low income families face by providing free tutoring services.

A few of my hobbies include reading, watching Netflix, and traveling.
Macrina Mackan  
(she/her)

**Education**
- Currently enrolled in the M.A. General Psychology program
- Transfer student from MJC where I earned an A.A.T. in Psychology
- Attended UC Davis for one year before transferring to Stanislaus State
- Graduated from Stanislaus State with a B.A. in Psychology

**Writing Center**
- First semester as a Writing Center tutor
- I hope to be a professor one day, so I think this will be great experience
- I have always loved writing and want others to love it as much as I do!
- Writing can be difficult, so I want to help make the process easier for others

**About me**
- I enjoy being active, especially swimming and running
- I love watching football and baseball (Go Broncos and Dodgers!!)
- I drive a baby blue VW convertible beetle (everyone says the car fits my personality perfectly)
- My nephew Otter is my best friend (he’s a dog)
I haven't always loved writing but becoming more skilled at it has given me a new perspective. I love writing now because it creates a space for me to have the freedom to think deeply about what I learn and reflect on how I connect to it. Because our writing is so personal to us, there is always a reason to be proud of it. My goal as a tutor is to help you be proud of your own writing, so you can also feel confident when you turn in your work.
Mary Elaine Cavanaugh
I usually go by "Laine"
She/Her/Hers
I also respond to "Hey, you!"

About Me
My major is physics, with a minor in mathematics.
I love cats, reading, and sleeping.
I'm learning Danish.
I love it when it rains (but I also love sitting in the sun).
I would like to go to grad school and pursue a career in Environmental Engineering.
I have the grace and eloquence of a half-eaten bagel.
My favorite book is Wool by Hugh Howey, seconded by The Long Walk by Stephen King. I'm currently reading In Cold Blood by Truman Capote.

About my cat
He was named after the Dread Pirate Roberts in The Princess Bride.
He thinks the world revolves around him and he's absolutely right.
He chirps and yells, especially at 3 in the morning.
I usually just call him "Orange."

Writing Center Stuff
I have been tutoring for several years now (I don't remember how long exactly). I keep coming back because of the relationships with the tutors and the excitement of helping new writers find their voice and fulfill their goals. This environment will help you foster your creativity and encourage you to grow. You aren't a burden here.