

One-Day Structured Writing Retreat

Dates: Friday 5th July 2019

Time: 09.30 – 16.45

Venue: Michael Marks Room, Michael Marks Building,
University of Leeds



Structured Writing Retreats are facilitated sessions based upon the extensive research undertaken by Professor Rowena Murray (University of the West of Scotland). The aim of the retreats are to use dedicated writing time to progress writing projects in a supportive and non-surveillance environment.

Retreat starts on Wednesday at 09.30 and ends at 16.45. All writing sessions, refreshments and lunch will be hosted in the Michael Marks room. We use most of the time for writing, all of us in the same room. Breaks and lunch often generate solutions to writing problems, develop drafts, lead to research-oriented conversations and provide feedback on writing-in-progress. Please ensure that you arrive in good time to register and set-up as the retreat follows strict timings in order to maximise the opportunity for writing time.

See <http://www.anchorage-education.co.uk/#> for information, interviews with participants, copies of articles about retreat, evidence base etc. The one-day retreats will be facilitated by Jo Garrick, NARTI Network Manager, who has undertaken facilitator training with Professor Murray.

Retreat works best when you:

- Focus exclusively on writing.
- Agree not to use internet in the writing room.
- Define specific goals and sub-goals, i.e. sections of paper/chapter, number of words.
- Define and discuss content and structure for writing sub-goals.
- Take stock of your achievements of these goals throughout the programme.
- Discuss your writing-in-progress –> mutual peer support.

Before you go to retreat:

- Decide on a writing project.
- Read Murray R. & Newton M. (2009) Writing retreat as structured intervention: Margin or mainstream? *Higher Education Research and Development*, 28(5): 527-39.
- Review the retreat programme (next page): plan your writing tasks for each timeslot.
- Do reading and other preparation before retreat.
- Get notes, plans, outlines etc. together. Outline the structure of your paper/chapter.
- Download anything you need before you go, e.g. journal's instructions for authors.

What to bring to retreat:

Laptop, power cable, memory stick, notes, outlines, 'model' paper, data.

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Writing Retreat Programme:

Friday 5th July

09.30-10.00	Arrive to set up laptop, have coffee and meet other participants
10.00-10.15	Introduction, briefing and planning writing
10.15-12.00	Writing
12.00-13.00	Lunch
13.00-15.00	Writing
15.00-15.30	Coffee break
15.30-16.30	Writing
16.30-16.45	Taking stock, new goals, feedback

Travelling to the University of Leeds:

The Michael Marks building is **building number 13** on the downloadable campus map (link below).

<https://www.leeds.ac.uk/campusmap#>

The University is around a 25-minute walk from the train station. Limited visitor car parking spaces may be available at the Business School but these need to be booked via Jo Garrick as soon as possible.

If you have any questions about this retreat, please contact Jo Garrick (j.e.garrick@lubs.leeds.ac.uk)