

JANUARY | ISSUE 1

# THE WRITE PLACE

UNC Charlotte Writing Resources Center's Newsletter



## *WRITING RESOURCES CENTER*

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Welcome to “The Write Place,” the official newsletter for UNC Charlotte’s Writing Resources Center. Just in case you don’t know, the WRC is a place on campus where students, faculty, and staff can cultivate their writing skills through one-on-one sessions with a trained tutor. We strive to create an encouraging, inclusive, and collaborative environment to facilitate skilled, confident writers.

The authors and founders of this newsletter are Aly (she/her) and Anna (she/her), two tutors who are currently pursuing their graduate degrees in English with concentrations in Creative Writing and Children’s Literature respectively. We are excited to use The Write Place as a way to provide a fun and informative resource on all things writing and the WRC. Here, we’ll introduce our tutors, promote campus resources, offer writing tips, and share our passion for learning.

# EVEN TUTORS NEED A LITTLE HELP SOMETIMES...

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## CUTER TUTORS

### ANIMAL ASSISTANTS OF WRC TUTORS



AKIRA THE 3 YEAR OLD  
GREEN CHEEK CONURE IS  
ANNA'S ANIMAL ASSISTANT.

Say hello to Akira, Anna's pet parrot! Akira provides vital assistance to Anna's online tutoring hours. He observes Anna's computer screen from atop her shoulder to make sure that she is always giving the best advice. He is rewarded with his favorite snack- sunflower seeds.

# MEET THE WRC DIRECTORS



**Dr. Katie Garahan**



**Prof. Tonya Wertz-Orbaugh**

In July of 2022, the Writing Resources Center at UNC Charlotte gained a new Director, Dr. Katie Garahan, as well as a new Associate Director, Professor Tonya Wertz-Orbaugh. While we know that some readers may have already had the pleasure of encountering Dr. Garahan or Professor Wertz-Orbaugh, we also know that some have yet to formally meet our fearless leaders. So, without further ado, allow us to introduce them.

Professor Wertz-Orbaugh is a long-term Niner and a pillar of the WRDS program at UNCC, who, when not teaching first-year writing as she has done since 2005, also enjoys creative writing and is currently in the final stages of a young adult novel. While new to Niner Nation, Dr. Garahan is no stranger to writing center work. She began her career as a tutor during her undergraduate program, became the Assistant to the Director at Virginia Tech University, and then the Writing Center Director at Radford University before assuming her position here.

## MEET THE WRC DIRECTORS CONTINUED...



It will come as no surprise, then, that when asked to describe what the writing center means to her, Dr. Garahan conveyed that writing centers have always felt like home. She believes the writing center is a place for cultivating students and tutors, imbuing them with both the “confidence and honed skills” not only to write high quality papers, but “to move out into the world and feel like [they] can form [their] thoughts well and explain them” to others, an ability they can employ “in every aspect of their lives.” Similarly, Professor Wertz-Orbaugh describes the writing center as “a wonderful, warm place” where writers “become more confident” in their ability to write effectively on their own. She emphasizes the great sense of community and friendship built in this space and the positive impact this welcoming environment has on tutors and students.

Dr. Garahan echoes the value of this collaborative spirit in Charlotte’s center specifically, spotlighting the high energy and bold initiative resulting from a staff composed of tutors at the professional, graduate, and undergraduate levels. She expresses her excitement to foster and institute the ideas of this generation of tutors to enhance the center’s ability to accomplish its mission of empowering writers. Professor Wertz-Orbaugh also admires how significantly “teamwork” as well as “care” and “commitment” on behalf of the tutors have contributed to the success of Charlotte’s writing center.

Both Dr. Garahan and Professor Wertz-Orbaugh would like to share this inviting, dynamic, team-oriented space with you, reader. They both wish students, faculty, and staff at UNCC knew that the writing center aims to support writers at any skill level and at any stage of their writing process so that they might leave feeling uplifted, capable of expressing their ideas as clearly as possible.

So, the next time you find yourself weaving through the maze of Cameron Hall, we encourage you to stop by room 125, say hello to Dr. Garahan and Professor Wertz-Orbaugh, and maybe schedule a tutoring session.

You might even be rewarded with candy and stickers. Of course, you didn’t hear that from us.

# HERE AT THE WRC, WE ENCOURAGE ALL TYPES OF LEARNING, INCLUDING FUN FACTS!

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## DICTIONARY

Search for a word



## LANGUAGE

- Did you know that the English language is constantly changing?
- From "Yeet" to "Influencer," around 1000 new words are added to English dictionaries a year.
- The Oxford English Dictionary updates 4 times a year to keep up with how rapidly the English language evolves.
- What is a new word you learned recently?

Bodle, A. (2016, February 4). How new words are born. *The Guardian*.  
[www.theguardian.com/media/mind-your-language/2016/feb/04/english-neologisms-new-words](http://www.theguardian.com/media/mind-your-language/2016/feb/04/english-neologisms-new-words)

THERE ARE MANY GREAT  
RESOURCES AND  
ORGANIZATIONS ON CAMPUS  
IN ADDITION TO THE WRC!

# The Axe & Quill Writing Society

**GET INVOLVED WITH WRITING ON CAMPUS**

OPEN TO ALL WRITING STUDENTS & ENTHUSIASTS

*Fill out our interest form!*

Learn, share & create  
Writers of all skill levels are welcome

**Reach out with questions!**

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Interest Form:



# OUR TUTORS DO FANTASTIC WORK

We want to utilize *The Write Place* to highlight the amazing writing, projects, and research produced by our passionate tutors.



**HERE IS THE  
ABSTRACT OF "KILL  
YOUR WILD THINGS: A  
CRITICAL  
MULTIMODAL  
ANALYSIS OF HUMAN-  
ENVIRONMENT  
INTERACTION  
IN MAURICE SENDAK'S  
'WHERE THE WILD  
THINGS ARE'" BY ALEX  
SIMMONS**

Children's picture books provide a genre in which language and imagery interact. Creators in this genre may use these interactions to (un)consciously communicate ideologies about the world. This study focuses on the children's picture book *Where the Wild Things Are* (1963) by Maurice Sendak in order to investigate how Sendak presents environmental ideologies to young readers, specifically that of human dominance over the natural world. This study employs a Critical Multimodal Analysis (CMA) approach, analyzing linguistic and visual modes through an ecocritical lens presented by ecocritics Bruno Latour and Michel Serres on the relationship and power dynamic between humanity and the natural world. Sendak communicates an ideology of human dominance over the natural world using both linguistic and visual elements in relay with each other. By applying a critical approach to beloved texts, researchers do not vilify them but rather uncover the (sub)conscious ideologies they communicate to the youngest and most susceptible portion of the population.

*Key words: Critical Discourse Analysis, child psychology, ecocriticism, Multimodal Discourse Analysis, picture books*

EVERYONE NEEDS FUEL TO BE A PRODUCTIVE WRITER! SO WHY NOT MAKE SURE IT'S TASTY? HERE IS A DELICIOUS RECIPE FROM ONE OF OUR TUTOR .

## TUTOR CARLOS'S DARK BROWN CHOCOLATE CHIP COOKIES!



### INGREDIENTS

- 1½ CUPS ALL-PURPOSE FLOUR
- 1¼ TSP. DIAMOND CRYSTAL OR ¾ TSP. MORTON KOSHER SALT
- ¾ TSP. BAKING SODA
- 1 CUP (PACKED) DARK BROWN SUGAR
- ¼ CUP GRANULATED SUGAR
- ¾ CUP (1½ STICKS) UNSALTED BUTTER, DIVIDED
- 1 LARGE EGG
- 2 LARGE EGG YOLKS
- 2 TSP. VANILLA EXTRACT
- 6 OZ. BITTERSWEET CHOCOLATE (60% - 70% CACAO), COARSELY CHOPPED, OR SEMISWEET CHOCOLATE CHIPS

### DIRECTIONS

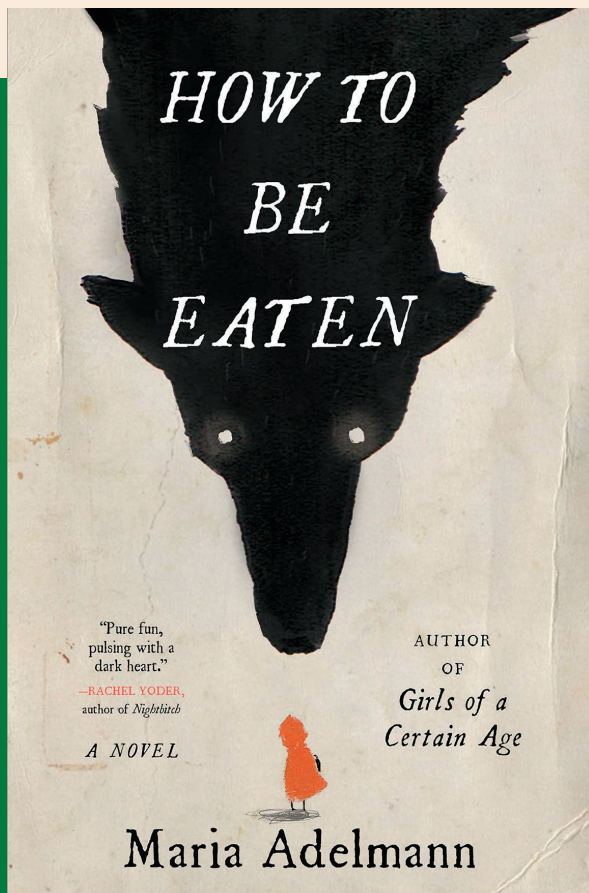
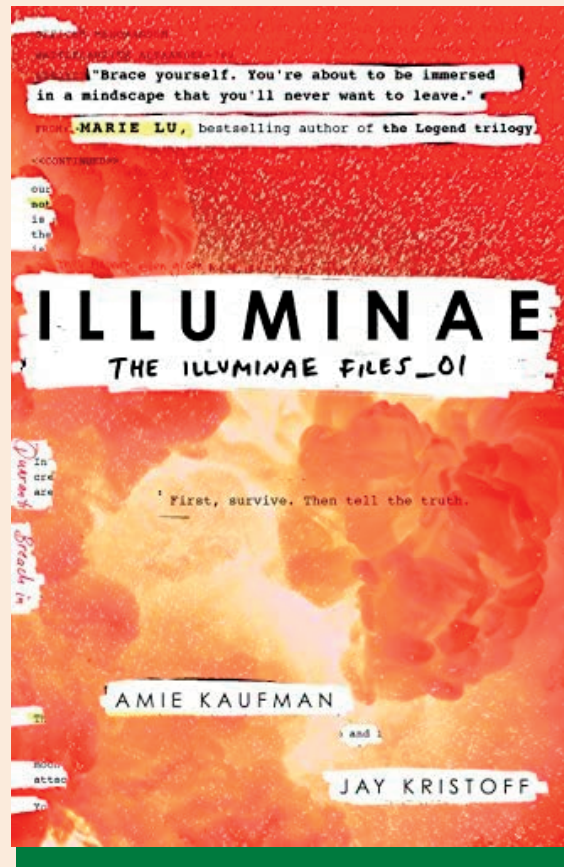
- PLACE RACKS IN UPPER THIRD OF OVEN; PREHEAT TO 375°. WHISK FLOUR, SALT, AND BAKING SODA IN A SMALL BOWL.
- COOK ½ CUP BUTTER IN LARGE SAUCEPAN OVER MEDIUM HEAT, SWIRLING OFTEN WITH A RUBBER SPATULA, UNTIL BUTTER FOAMS, THEN BROWNS. (ABOUT 4 MINUTES.) TRANSFER BUTTER TO A LARGE BOWL AND LET COOL 1 MINUTE. CUT REMAINING ¼ CUP BUTTER INTO SMALL PIECES & ADD TO BROWN BUTTER (IT SHOULD START TO MELT BUT NOT FOAM AND SIZZLE).
- ONCE BUTTER IS MELTED, ADD BOTH SUGARS AND WHISK UNTIL SUGAR IS INCORPORATED AND NO LUMPS REMAIN. ADD EGG + YOLKS AND WHISK UNTIL SUGAR DISSOLVES & MIXTURE IS SMOOTH. (ABOUT 30 SECONDS). WHISK IN VANILLA. USING RUBBER SPATULA, FOLD RESERVED DRY INGREDIENTS INTO BUTTER MIXTURE JUST UNTIL NO DRY SPOTS REMAIN, THEN FOLD IN CHOCOLATE. (DOUGH WILL BE SOFT BUT SHOULD HOLD ITS SHAPE ONCE SCOOPED).
- USING A 1½-OZ. SCOOP (3 TBSP.), PORTION OUT 16 BALLS OF DOUGH & DIVIDE BETWEEN 2 PARCHMENT-LINED RIMMED BAKING SHEETS. BAKE COOKIES, ROTATING SHEETS IF COOKIES ARE BROWNING VERY UNEVENLY UNTIL DEEP GOLDEN BROWN AND FIRM AROUND THE EDGES, 8-10 MINUTES.





OUR TUTORS AT THE WRC ARE NOT ONLY EXCELLENT WRITERS BUT ALSO AVID READERS. HERE ARE SOME BOOK RECOMMENDATIONS FROM OUR TUTORS TO ADD TO YOUR TBR.

Check out *The Illuminae Files* trilogy by Amie Kaufman and Jay Kristoff. "It's perfect for lovers of science fiction, mystery, romance, and action!"  
- Jessica



Also try *How To Be Eaten* by Maria Adelman. "Women. Friendship. Group Therapy. Classic Horror Stories like: Bluebeard, Little Red Riding Hood, The Bachelor, Hansel & Gretel, and Rumpelstiltskin."  
- Britt

WE WANT  
TO SHARE  
WITH YOU  
JOKES THAT  
MADE US  
CHUCKLE...



ALONG  
WITH AN  
UPLIFTING  
AND  
INSPIRING  
MESSAGE.

# WANT TO MAKE AN APPOINTMENT? HERE IS WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW.

You can bring *any* writing assignment at *any* stage of your writing process. Our tutors are here to help! Visit **[uncc.mywconline.com](https://uncc.mywconline.com)** and pick one of the following **appointment** types or **walk in**.

## In-Person Tutoring

In-person sessions are the most common form of tutoring that the WRC offers. These sessions are structured to give you up to 45 minutes of one-on-one time with a tutor inside the WRC.

## Video Conferencing

Video conferencing is very similar to a face-to-face session, except the session is conducted through Zoom. Although most clients use video during video conferencing sessions, you may choose to only use audio or the chat feature if that is more comfortable for you. Just like face-to-face sessions, you'll have up to 45 minutes to work with your tutor one-on-one.

## E-Tutoring

If you make an e-tutoring appointment, you'll upload a copy of your writing to the online scheduling system for a tutor to review. During the hour you booked for a session, the tutor will take a look at your writing and send you a feedback letter by the end of the hour. This option is totally asynchronous and does not require you to be present in-person or via Zoom.

## Locations & Hours

Cameron 125	M-Th (9am-5pm), F (9am-12pm)
Atkins G34	M-Th (4pm-7pm)
Online Only	M-Th (5pm-9pm), F (12pm-4pm), Sun (2pm-5pm)

## Coming Soon:

A special edition of *The Write Place* featuring interviews with all of our amazing tutors!

Follow us on Instagram  @CLT\_WRC and Twitter  @CLT\_WRC for frequent updates on the WRC's services and events.

We want to hear from our readers! Reach out with any questions at [wrc@uncc.edu](mailto:wrc@uncc.edu).

Want to schedule an appointment? Use our website [uncc.mywconline.com](http://uncc.mywconline.com).



**WRITING  
RESOURCES  
CENTER**