GHOST WRITING

Since scholarly writing emphasizes objective research and supporting your claims with multiple sources, the UWL encourages you to use Ghost writing to highlight this research and your critical thinking abilities. Ghost writing speaks through your sources by integrating them into your sentences with signal phrases.

HOW TO INTEGRATE YOUR SOURCES WELL

1. **Primarily Paraphrase Your Research**—Paraphrasing demonstrates to your audience that you can analyze information well and helps you relate this information specifically within the context of your paper. For a guide to paraphrasing, see here.
   
   A) Only use a direct and/or block quote if you believe that the original wording is integral to your paper’s argument or you want to preserve the original authors’ wording.

2. **Include Signal Phrases**—Place the scholar in your paraphrased sentences by making them one of the main characters.
   
   A) Examples: According to Williams, Williams demonstrates, and…as stated by Williams.

3. **Compare & Contrast Your Sources**—Use multiple sources in each paragraph and demonstrate how their research relates to each other by using multiple signal phrases.
   
   A) Williams believes that…. In contrast, Smith states that…

4. **Format Your Sources Correctly**—MLA, APA, and Turabian all hold varying formatting requirements. Make sure you follow their in-text citation rules.

GHOST WRITING EXAMPLE

According to Crowley (2019), the Cure is the best coffee shop in the Hampton Roads area because of its charming atmosphere and excellent drink selection (p. 56). Plym (2018) affirms this position and adds that the Cure’s special events make it a community staple (p. 20). [Formatted according to APA 7th]

TIP: You can include signal phrases at the beginning, middle, or end of your sentences!