

Writing Groups: Create your own adventure!

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Learning Outcomes

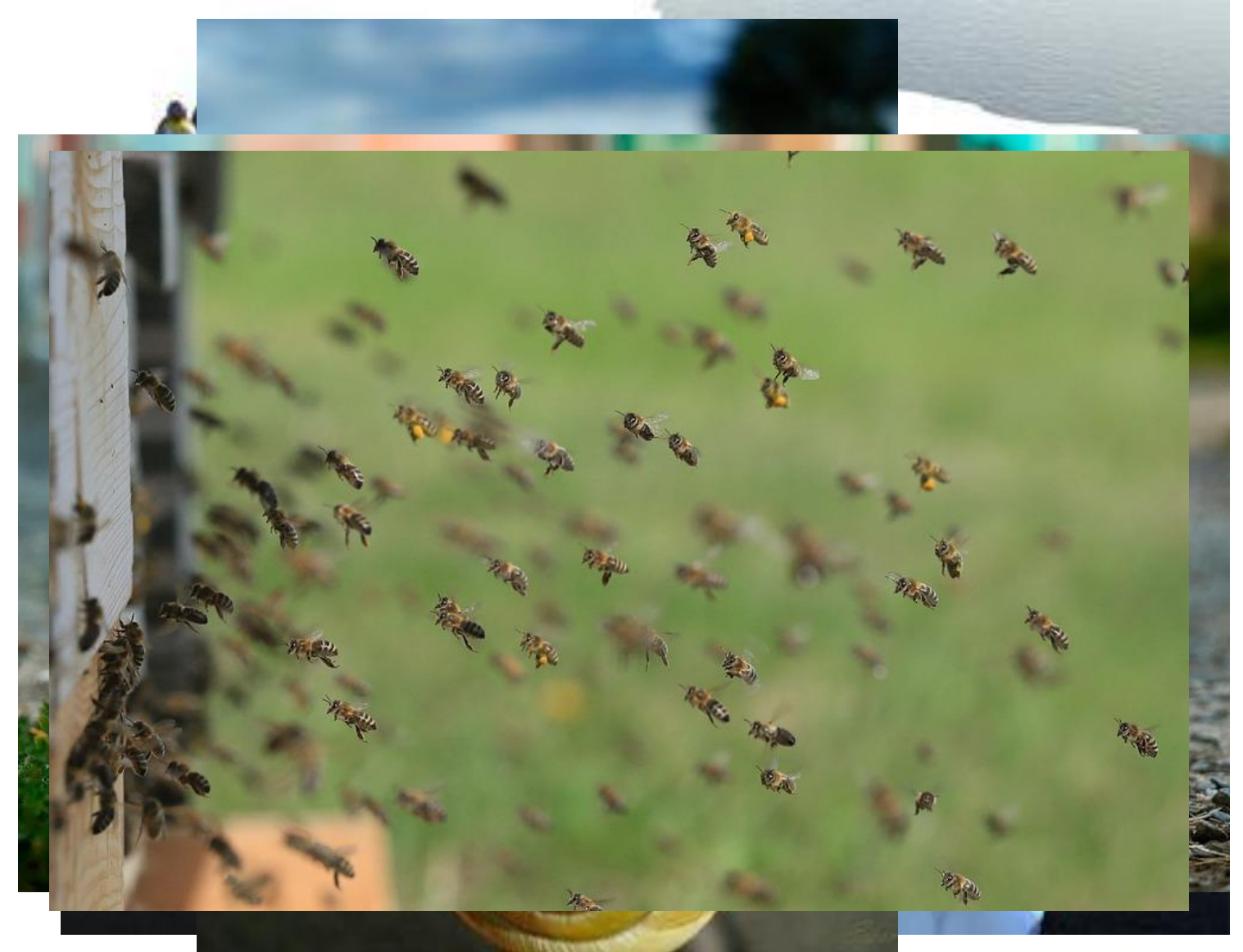
By the end of the session, the participants will know more about

- Writing group benefits/challenges
- Writing group logistics (purpose, schedule, location, itinerary, ...)
- On-campus resources available: Create your own writing group adventure!



Why group writing?

- Battling grad student **isolation**
- Finding a way to make incremental but **consistent** progress
- Enhancing **accountability**
- Building a **community**



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Some Outcomes

- **Demystify** writing process (becomes everyday practice with incremental progress rather than overwhelming project)
- Schedule writing time in **manageable** shifts
- Encourage **self-reflection** about best writing practices (Do I do my best writing in the morning? Should I draft and revise simultaneously?)



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What are common challenges?

- Personality clashes
- Conflicts
- Lack of commitment
- Competitive members
- Issues involving intellectual property



Source:pixabay



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What does group writing entail?

1. Establishing goals

1. Share writing? Get feedback?

2. Strict writing time?

3. Do you want to use the group to have a “holistic check in”?

4. Any other activities?



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What does group writing entail?

2. Establishing procedures

1. Where do you want to write? For how long? How often?
2. What is the initial commitment?
3. How big will the group be?
4. What are the rules for group membership?



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What does group writing entail?

3. Establishing next steps

1. Attend Leah's workshop: "Writing Groups Orientation"
2. Consult the "Thesis Writing Starter Kit"
3. Connect with a few colleagues (E.g. TBC attendees?)
4. Schedule a first meeting
5. Experiment and learn!



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What is happening at UVic?

- Counseling writing groups
- Centre for Academic Communication
 - Graduate Writing Room
- Thesis Boot Camp
 - 3-day events in December & June



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Let's imagine...

You are coordinating a **writing group**! With your colleagues, consider the following points and share your ideas on the big paper provided:

- Purpose of your group
- Number of attendees
- Schedule
- Typical gathering itinerary
- Expectations



— pixabay.com



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Let's make it happen!

- If you are interested in offering your name/email to others so that you can continue the discussion about writing groups, please provide this info after this session
- We'll scan the document and send it out to you asap



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Acknowledgements

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