Mission Statement
The mission of the St. John Fisher College Writing Center is to support writing at all levels of post-secondary education. Writing Center staff aim to teach writing as a thinking and revising process by intervening in that process according to the requests and needs of the individual student writer; to support and promote students' entry into the academic discourse community; to provide opportunities for student tutors to grow as writers through the teaching of writing to others; to act as a resource for faculty interested in extending writing across the curriculum.

Goals
- To provide writing, reading, research, and study skills assistance to undergraduate and graduate students;
- To support first-year students as they make the transition from high school to college;
- To support graduate students as they enter the discourse communities of their respective professional communities;
- To provide both face-to-face and online support for graduate students. Such support includes writing, research, topic development, disciplinary conventions and documentation style, use of Standard Written English, English as a Foreign Language, and transition back to college (after a period of being out of school);
- To provide relevant writing and study skills workshops for undergraduate and graduate students (e.g., writing, grammar, time-management, test-taking strategies, test anxiety);
- To develop the critical thinking, listening, interpersonal, and communication skills as well as the professional work ethic of undergraduate peer tutors.

Data Collection Tools and Approaches
- One method for evaluating the effectiveness of the Writing Center is to document usage;
- End-of-semester exit surveys are administered to students to measure satisfaction and perception of tutoring quality;
- Center for Academic Excellence (CAE) workshop participants are surveyed about their perceptions of workshop efficacy;
- All tutors are evaluated by the Director. Methods of evaluation include:
  - Periodic observation and review of tutoring
    - New writing tutors participate in a tutor-mentoring program meant to complement and enhance classroom work by providing experiential learning and peer collaboration among WC staff
  - Ongoing assessment of Conference Records completed by tutors
  - Regular administration and review of grammar diagnostics
  - Follow-up conferencing on an individual basis aimed at tutor development and skill-building;
- Pre-and post-assessment of student writing (collected from multiple sections of RW 199)

Use of Evidence
Ongoing analysis of the data is used to drive evidence-based changes to Writing Center practices, services, and tutor development. The results will be used to make changes in the programs currently offered, to enhance and revitalize current programs, and to help tutors achieve a level of excellence in their writing, teaching, interpersonal, and professional skills. The results are also used to determine future resource needs as well as better meet the needs of a diverse population of students in an ever-changing educational, professional, and social environment.

For further information or questions regarding the Writing Center, please contact the Director, Theresa Nicolay, tnicolay@sjfc.edu