Copy Editors for the Graduate Written Thesis
2021

The Center for Arts & Language offers free peer tutoring for grads working on the written thesis. Tutors are trained to work on all aspects of thesis-writing development. To make a one-hour appointment, please visit artsandlanguage.risd.edu. To inquire about making ongoing weekly or biweekly appointments with the same tutor please e-mail mbarrett01@risd.edu.

Given the scope and demands of the thesis, some students may wish for or need more extensive assistance than tutoring can provide alone. Following is a list of copy editors available for hire for this very purpose. Editors with an asterisk (*) by their name are local and available to meet in person; all others can work via email, telephone, and video conference.

All transactions are between the student and the copy editor; scheduling, scope and method of work, and payment must be negotiated independently. Please take care to establish your editorial expectations, schedule, and budget clearly. Please also note that A&L is not endorsing the copy editors on this list and is not responsible for management or outcome; students should investigate this opportunity to their satisfaction before making commitments.

Cynthia Allegrezza • cynthia.allegrezza@gmail.com • 508-853-7016 • $35-$45/hour
As a professional copy editor and proofreader for more than two decades, I have a proven ability to help writers produce a polished document. Whether your thesis requires thorough editing or a final proofread, I will ensure that your content is clear, consistent, and correct. My experience includes copy editing for authors, websites, publications, museums, corporations, and universities. I have a journalism/communications degree from the University of Bridgeport and taught magazine editing and writing classes at Southern Connecticut State University and Fairfield University.

Allie Biswas • biswas.allie@gmail.com • $20/hour
I have degrees in English and History of Art from the University of London. I spent four years at the Tate working on museum publications, including the journal Tate Papers. At the Royal Institute of British Architects I edited architecture catalogs and exhibition texts. I am the art editor at Glass, where I edit artist interviews, and I contribute to Studio International and The Brooklyn Rail. I have experience in working with students on their writing on a one-to-one basis and love helping with aspects such as structure and grammar, as well as thinking creatively about content. I’m more than happy to answer any questions or talk informally about your project prior to committing. References from past RISD students available.

Jess Goldschmidt • jessica.m.goldschmidt@gmail.com • 626-840-4894 • $40/hr, flat fee negotiable
For almost ten years I’ve worked as a copy editor, arts writer, and writing tutor. I’ve written and edited for the Brooklyn Academy of Music, Lower Manhattan Cultural Center, The New York Times and Philadelphia magazine, among others, and have contributed articles and editing to a forthcoming book from David Zwirner Gallery and the Ad Reinhardt Foundation. I’ve got a BA from Brown University in Performance Studies and an MFA from CalArts in Creative Writing, and I’ve worked in the Writing Centers of both institutions and trained extensively in writing pedagogy. Basically: I love working one-on-one with writers at all stages of a project, and can offer support with everything from proofreading to proposals, outlining to in-depth rewrites. Feel free to get in touch for an initial consult, email is a great way to reach me.

(list continues on next page)
* Joel Kuennen • joelkuennen@gmail.com • 608-397-5480 • $40/hour, flat fee negotiable
I have been writing about contemporary art and editing art criticism for over a decade and hold an MA in Visual and Critical Studies from The School of the Art Institute of Chicago. Deeply experienced in conceptual editing, I can help you develop congruent arguments, stylistic flow, and convey complex ideas in elegant ways. I love working with artists to develop their theses, from concept to publication, and have done just that with dozens of students. Large and complex ideas can feel impossible to describe sometimes. I can help you find the best way to communicate your ideas while retaining the sense of awe and grandeur they inspire in you.

Jaime Lowe • jaimelowe@gmail.com • $55-$65
I earned my MFA in Writing from Sarah Lawrence College. In addition to my writing and editing experience (bylines in WIRED, Slate, Village Voice, McSweeney’s), I have worked for over ten years as a photographer and artist. My firsthand experience working in art allows me to easily bridge the gap between art and communications. I have worked with many students to help them sharpen their focus, edit their work, and provide support and guidance through their thesis processes.

Jean Mishkin • jean@jeanmishkin.com • 917-873-5326 • Flat Fee
I have more than twenty years of experience as a writing coach and editor, working with students on theses and fellowship applications. If you have never before worked with an editor, I would be happy to discuss with you how you can benefit from working with one and the type of help that would be best for you. As each project is unique, I can provide developmental and/or copy editing as well as time management support. I have worked successfully with RISD students from across the disciplines including many international students for whom English may be a second language. I hold a BA and an MA from the University of Pennsylvania, an MBA from the University of Chicago, and have studied at The New School’s Writing Program.

Marla Mrowka • marla.ann.mrowka@gmail.com • $25/hr
I’m a 2018 graduate of RISD’s Interior Architecture master’s program, and previous graduate peer tutor at the Center for Arts & Language, so I understand the dedication and love that pour into a RISD thesis. I help your ideas shine by honing your words and sentences, but never editing your spirit and style. As an NCIDQ certified interior designer, I know presentation is every bit as important as the idea, and believe sentence structure and word choice can turn a good project into a great one. With a six-year professional background in digital design and advertising, I also welcome students looking for help with visual design and presentations.

Elizabeth Perry • elizabethperryt@gmail.com • (914)-960-4701 • $30/hour
I am a writer and editor with several years of varied professional experience. I earned my BA in English from Vassar College, focusing on literature and theory, and began my editing career as an undergraduate working on student projects. I have experience working with creative, arts-related, and academic content on a variety of subjects. Past editing projects I’ve worked on have included academic essays and articles, textbooks, translations, creative nonfiction and poetry, media content, and more. I am a meticulous and consistent editor, with a passion and appreciation for art as well as experience working with non-native English speakers. I specialize in writing that is clear, engaging, and concise. We’ll work together to determine your editing needs. I offer everything from line-by-line proofreading and copyediting to in-depth developmental editing with detailed feedback if desired. We can discuss word choice, argument structure, formatting, and more. Together we will strengthen your writing without sacrificing your voice in order to communicate your ideas with consistency, clarity, and authenticity. I am available by e-mail, phone, and Zoom or video call.

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Reya Sehgal • sehgal.reya@gmail.com • (415) 987-9302 • $35-40, flat fee negotiable
I have worked with students, scholars, and curators in the arts and humanities on personal state-
ments, theses, dissertations, books, essays, and public-facing materials. I provide everything from
basic (but meticulous) proofreading to in-depth copy editing and iterative developmental editing. I
also have experience tutoring English language learners, and enjoy working with new writers on
creative and academic texts. My areas of expertise include: architectural history, urban theory,
contemporary art criticism, postcolonial studies, performance studies, and critical race/gender
studies. I have an undergraduate degree in Postcolonial Urbanism from UC Berkeley, and an MA in
Public Humanities from Brown University. I live and work in Brooklyn, NY, and can be available for
Skype sessions and phone calls.

Susan Solomon • solomonsusan2@gmail.com • (401) 441-2528 • $40/hour
I have undergraduate and master’s degrees in English from the University of Connecticut and an
M.A. and Ph.D. in Comparative Literature from Brown University. I have been teaching college
writing and literature courses for nearly 15 years at UConn, Brown, Roger Williams, RISD, and
Boğaziçi University and tutored in the English Writing Center of the University of Tübingen. Since
acting as the Assistant Editor of differences: a journal of feminist cultural studies from 2006–07, I
have worked as a freelance translator (German–English), copy editor, proofreader, and writing coach
serving students, professors, academic publishers, and journals. Though my own writing focuses on
literary studies, theory, and aesthetics, I have assisted non-native speakers of English writing in
diverse fields and genres through my contract work for an editing firm. If we work together, I will
approach your text with interest, sensitivity, and respect and do my utmost to help you assert your
voice with authenticity, credibility, logic, and persuasion. I offer proofreading of near-final drafts as
well as ongoing support during the prewriting and drafting process.

Julianna Tauschinger-Dempsey • tauschingerdempsey@gmail.com • 518-649-5077 • $50–$65/hr
I have degrees from Harvard University and the Manhattan School of Music and some 20 years of
experience as an editor, writing consultant and coach. My area of expertise is academic writing in
the arts and social sciences and application essays. Clients have ranged from the Massachusetts
Department of Public Health to university students and professors at MIT, RISD, Tufts, the School of
the Arts and others. I have extensive experience working with non-native English speakers/writers.
Currently, I am the head tutor and writing specialist at the Southern Atlantic states’ leading test prep
company.

Ann Weaver • weaverknits77@gmail.com • (616) 745-4606 • Flat Fee
I have been a copyeditor for ten years, primarily working in the fields of education, fine art, and
academia. I have a bachelor’s degree from New York University in Studio Art and English and two
master’s degrees from Harvard University. I charge at fixed per-page rates, so we can determine the
cost of your service upfront.

* Sara Wintz • sara.wintz@gmail.com • 510-604-7907 • $40-$45/hour
I’m a poet, professional blogger, and educator with degrees in English Literature (BA) and Writing
(MFA). I’ve taught ESL, creative writing, and composition at art schools in San Francisco and
Brooklyn. At P.S.1 Contemporary Art Center, I articulated exhibitions and artists’ practices to visitors.
I’m a daily contributor to the Poetry Foundation’s official blog, Harriet, and have three years of
experience writing marketing copy about the performing arts. Writing is a skill that even the greatest
practitioners seek to improve. I’m here to help writers strengthen their voices in prose, at any point
in the thesis process, from support and guidance with early drafts to the final proofread.