

Epilogue Editing Presents: How to Write a Book

Dates: July 13–August 3, 2022

What is this class about?

“How do I...*write* a book?” Is a question I get asked a lot, usually after the first or second coaching session with a writer. They know they want to write a book, have collected a lot of data, taken productivity and accountability workshops, and maybe even have secured a contract. But... then what? I consistently hear that there isn't support for what comes next: the messy, intermediate book writing phase. In other words, people want to know how to write a book **well**. That's where this workshop comes in.

Who is this for?

This group is for anyone who has ever thought about how to become a better writer. If you have a dissertation that you're looking to turn into a book, a set of articles that you want to transform into a monograph, or a draft of a book that you're hoping to take to the next stage, this workshop is for you. Whether you've never written a book or this will be your tenth, you're welcome to join us!

If you don't have a book project yet, that's ok! Our conversations about writing can apply to lots of contexts, and you can have access to seminar recordings to listen to later when the inspiration strikes.

When will we meet?

July 13-August 3, workshops every Wednesday from 12 pm-1:15 pm Eastern time (sessions will be recorded for those who can't make it).

(PS - If you want to participate but July doesn't work for you, drop me a note telling me you're interested and any future dates that might work better!)



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What will we do?

A detailed schedule will follow in May, but here is a rough outline:

Week One: Are you a gardener or an architect? How to envision writing your book.

Week Two: Why can't we write in first person? And other myths – finding the voice you *actually* want to write in.

Week Three: How do I tell a story people want to read? Moving from data to narrative.

Week Four: I have a draft: Now what? Revision and submission strategies that work.

How will we spend our time?

Think of it as a graduate seminar or master class in writing for academics.

Throughout the workshop, you'll have access to a Slack group with others in the course where I'll post weekly discussion prompts, and you can have conversations about publishing, revising, academia, etc.

I'll ask you to read ~20 pages each week. Most weeks, you'll have 2 or 3 pieces to choose from for our discussion. I'm hoping that the face-to-face format allows us to have in-depth conversations about what makes for good writing.

The session will open with time for questions and conversation about writing and the prompt for the week. I'll offer some comments and observations about the topic for the week (a mini-lecture), and then we'll have time to analyze the week's reading(s).

What might we read?

A mixture of scholarly and creative nonfiction. We'll read scholars who are great at using their voice, weaving narrative, and interpreting data, and we'll also study how people who write creative nonfiction and memoir can make. The final reading list will be available closer to the course time, but possible authors include:

Michelle Alexander, Sarah Broom, Cristina Beltrán, Simukai Chigudu, Justin Gest, Mai Hassan, Eric Larson, Noora Lori, Patrick Radden Keefe, Erin Mayo-Adam, Jamila Michener, Pippa Norris, Lisa Wedeen.

If you've read a great book lately, tell me and we can add it!

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Why are you the right person to teach this?

I've worked with dozens of writers on their books as an editor and coach, first as a professor and chair of political science and then as a full-time editor and academic consultant for Epilogue Editing. More importantly, I've been where you are! My first book was published by Palgrave Macmillan in 2016, and was originally my dissertation project. I am currently working on my second book, based on four years of interviews with activists during the Trump administration. I've published widely in both scholarly and popular venues. In short, I love writing, and I love working with people on how to write. I also love teaching, and have been honored with a number of teaching awards.

I am a political scientist by training, and most of the books I work on are social science or in the humanistic social sciences. However, writers from any discipline or genre are welcome!

How much does it cost?

You have options!

Until May 15, take advantage of the "Writing is More Fun with a Friend" Special! if you register with a friend (and both of you list each other's names at checkout), you each receive \$50 off the price of whichever tier you choose. Friends can mix and match tiers - just decide to take the course together!

Tier One: Four live workshops, recorded video calls, Slack accountability group of awesomeness with weekly prompts/discussions (\$300, \$250 if you register by May 15)

Tier Two: Everything from tier one, plus two 30-minute one-on-one coaching sessions scheduled any time you want for more individualized access to support. (\$400, \$350 if you register by May 15)

Tier Three: Everything from the previous tiers, plus I'll read any 25 pages of your book/book proposal and give you written feedback on it. (\$600, \$500 if you register by May 15)

All in: All of that, and developmental and stylistic editing on your book, up to 100,000 words. (\$2500, \$2000 if you register by May 15 – a steal!).

Note: I can provide an invoice for your institution to pay for this. I can also provide language to help you request funding from your department or dean - just ask!

If you're paying individually, there are payment plans available - just email me!

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How do I register?

Visit: <https://www.epilogueediting.com/writeabook> for more information and to register!

FAQ

Q: Can we mix and match tiers with the friends discount?

A: Yes! The friends discount is available at any tier, and friends can be on different tiers. Enter the promo code writewithfriends at checkout.

Q: What is your refund policy?

A: If you have to cancel by June 1, I will provide you with a full refund. June 1-June 30, I will provide a 50% refund. After June 30, no refunds are available.

Q: My institution can't pay you by credit card - can I register some other way?

A: Of course! Email me.

Q: Do I need to be writing a book?

A: No! Anyone interested in being a stronger writer is welcome!

Q: Do I have to have a PhD/ be an "academic"/can I take this as a graduate student?

A: I love working with all writers! As long as you're interested in non-fiction writing, you can get a lot out of this workshop. There's probably less in it for people interested in writing sci-fi or murder mysteries (but you're probably cooler than us anyway).

Q: But it's *THE SUMMER*. Will you offer this workshop again when I'm not on the beach?

A: I'd love to! Drop me a note saying you're interested, and maybe mention some dates. I also do versions of this workshop in 1-1 coaching and for departments/retreats, so we could work together that way as well.

Q: You didn't answer my question!

A: Email me! epilogueediting@gmail.com