

# MOOVELOUS WRITING NEWS

THE BLUEFIELD COLLEGE WRITING CENTER NEWSLETTER  
STUDENT ISSUE



## HEAR FROM THE TUTORS

Writing Center Administrators:

Mickey Pellillo (Writing Center Director)

Wendy Beavers (Writing Center Assistant and COWL  
Webmaster)

Crystal White (Assigns Essays)

### White's experience with online tutoring

After attending the Southeastern Writing Center Conference last February, I realized the importance and uniqueness of our online tutoring services here at Bluefield College. I was very surprised to learn that many large college and universities do not offer online tutoring. While there are a few challenges to online tutoring, students can still receive adequate help with their assignments if they plan ahead and are able to read and follow instructions. Face-to-face tutor will always be best, but if a busy schedule keeps a student from visiting the writing center, he or she can submit an essay any time day or night.

Online tutoring is the only way working adult students can receive help with their essays and projects. The degree-completion students who study with Bluefield College but live far from campus can access online help 24 hours a day. This writing help is a real plus for students who are coming back to school after many years of working and/or raising a family. I can recall many instances of these students working hard on papers time after time and I could track their improvements with each new assignment submitted. This has been a very rewarding experience for me and I am very glad to be a part of help someone else improve and excel. I have been a tutor for five years now and plan to continue as long as I am a part of Bluefield College.

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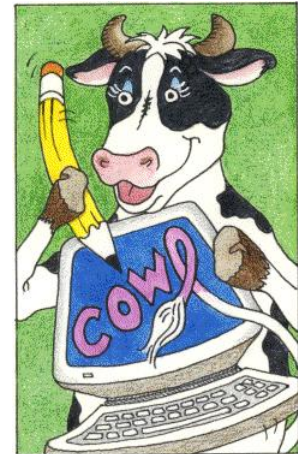
#### Hours

Monday 10-12 and 2-3:30

Tuesday 2-4

Thursday 2-4

COWL 24/7



### A Brief Introduction to Sentence Punctuation

Keep the following examples in mind as you check your own punctuation.

- 1) I went to town. I ate lunch.  
Notice 2 complete sentences are separated by a period.
- 2) I went to town, so I could eat lunch.  
Notice these 2 sentences are joined by a comma AND a helping word. (And, for, or, nor, yet are the other words which follow this format.)
- 3) I went to town because I wanted to eat lunch.  
This time "because" is the connecting word, and it needs no punctuation to help it.
- 4) Because I wanted to eat lunch, I went to town.  
This time "because" comes at the beginning of this sentence, and it needs a comma before the next subject as a helper.
- 5) I went to town; I ate lunch.  
A semicolon is used when the 2 ideas are very much connected with one another.
- 6) I went to town; however, the restaurant was closed, so I could not eat lunch.  
Notice that "however" needs lots of punctuation help. It has a semicolon before and a comma after. Other words that follow this format include therefore, consequently, subsequently, etc.

### USE THE WRITING CENTER TO:

- Learn how to use commas
- Know the difference between homophones
- Learn how to use semicolons
- Be able to use the writing process affectively
- Develop your editing skills in one-on-one writing conferences

### WRITING TIP FOR NOVEMBER:

Don't let the thought of putting pen to paper daunt you. Get started right away and don't procrastinate. The longer you wait the more rushed you feel. In the end the finished product won't be your best work. Take your time, but do the work.

### SALE!!!

On your honor book sale –  
on going.  
Just stop by and make your  
selection any time!

Editor for this month: Jaimie Hobbs  
Senior Communication student