


Launching Our Summer Writing Projects: A Workshop for New Faculty

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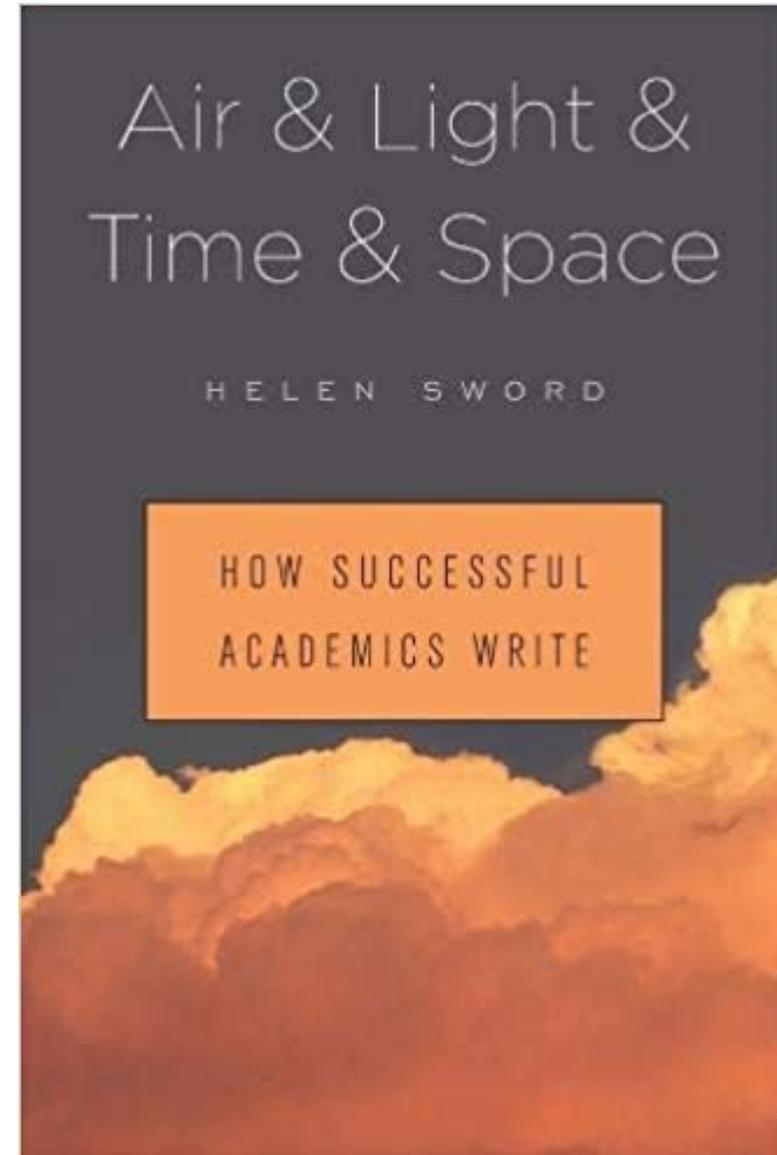
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What we'll do:

- 1) Look at some research on successful faculty writers and their habits in 4 key areas: behavioral, artisanal, social, and emotional.
- 2) Discuss how to mark your calendars and set your goals.
- 3) Resources for Writing.

Research on (and
inspiration from)
the habits of
successful faculty
writers:



Sword's Research:

- In-depth interviews with 100 academic authors.
- Questionnaire responses from 1,223 additional academic authors.



BASE: Behavioral, Artisanal, Social, and Emotional Habits (Sword, 2017, p. 4)

BEHAVIORAL: Successful writers carve out time and space for their writing in a striking variety of ways, but they do it somehow. Key habits of mind: persistence, passion, pragmatism, “grit.”

ARTISANAL/CRAFT: Successful writers recognize writing as an artisanal activity that requires ongoing learning, development, and skill. Key habits of mind: creativity, craft, artistry, patience, practice, perfectionism [but not too much!], a passion for lifelong learning.

SOCIAL: Successful writers seldom work entirely in isolation; even in traditionally “sole author” disciplines, they typically rely on other people—colleagues, friends, family, editors, reviewers, audiences, students—to provide them with support and feedback. Key habits of mind: collegiality, collaboration, generosity, openness to both criticism and praise.

EMOTIONAL: Successful writers cultivate modes of thinking that emphasize pleasure, challenge, and growth. Key habits of mind: positivity, enjoyment, satisfaction, risk taking, resilience, luck.

- Everyone is stronger in some areas than others, which still allows for success (productivity and pleasure)!
- Q for the chat: How do you think you might you build more persistence, craft, social support and/or enjoyment into your own writing?



Later: Find your profile. Go to www.writersdiet.com/base

Are you a pebble, a rock,
a lone wolf?



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Mark your
summer
calendar
(May, June,
July, August)
to make time
to write:

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- What time of day are you most productive?
- Which days/weeks are for students, family, trips, vacations, breaks, recharging, etc.? **Block them out on your calendar.**
- Break your project into steps—e.g., research, notetaking, outlining, drafting, sharing with others. **How many hours and days do you estimate each step will take?**
- For each step and writing session, **set goals and assess your progress in relation to them. Was your goal too ambitious? Too modest?**
- **Keep a log/journal of your goals and your progress toward them.**
- Give yourself a small reward when you've completed a step, a big reward when you've completed a project.
- **What tips do you have for each other based on your experience? Put in chat.**

Resources for the Summer:

Writingcenter.uiowa.edu: 50-minute appointments once a week; as needed appointments; and document review.

The Writing Center's Virtual Write On Group for Accountability. Email writing-center@uiowa.edu if you'd like to join.

Obermann Summer/Fall Faculty Writing Groups Survey Respond by this Friday.

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1qScTEMjMy94IHTaRljPr04zGsV7vfuNmAAmk4KJB3g/edit?ts=62728801>

Naomi Greyser's Video on Writing Groups, from Obermann's Get It Done Program:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ReaBFutsGAM&t=1s>

National Center for Faculty Development and Diversity:
<https://www.facultydiversity.org/>

And a
Wonderful
Guidebook:

