Fall 2026 Writing Retreat Agenda

Robin and Doug Shore Innovation Center, Marietta, GA

Thursday, December 17, 2026

Time	Activity
8:30 – 8:45 AM	Check-in and continental breakfast
8:45 – 9:15 AM	**Workshop: Building a House of Writing** We'll explore the habits of successful academic writers, including behavioral habits (carving out time and space for writing), artisanal habits (refining and experimenting with form, syntax, voice), social habits (relying on others for support and feedback), and emotional habits (finding pleasure and growth in writing). Then we'll guide you through the process of planning for success by choosing and implementing specific strategies.
9:15 – 10:00 AM	**Planning session** Create your plan for making the most of this retreat and the Spring semester.
10:00 – 10:45 AM	**Writing session / Consultations 1** Write independently or book a 45-min consultation to receive personalized guidance in one of the themes below. • **Research roadmapping** – create a plan for your research program to achieve your mid- and long-term goals • **Proposal strategy** – develop a compelling proposal that is one of the few selected for funding • **Budget strategy** – develop a budget that meets the needs of your project and the sponsor guidelines • **Proposal logistics** – nuts and bolts of what you need to do to submit a proposal at KSU (Cayuse, federal grant portals, budget compliance, trainings, etc.) • **Education plan development** – considering an NSF EDU or CAREER grant? Learn how to design a robust education plan • **Publication coaching** – get feedback on how to get your work into an A+ journal • **Book proposal development** – how to convert your ideas and articles into the next bestseller
10:45 – 11:00 AM	Networking coffee break
11:00 – 11:45 AM	**Writing session / Consultations 2**
11:45 – 12:30 PM	**Writing session / Consultations 3**
12:30 – 1:15 PM	Networking lunch
1:15 – 2:00 PM	**Workshop: Identifying Resources and How to Fill the Gaps** We'll discuss the resources available to you to advance your research projects. We'll start by helping you recognize what you already have access to. Then we'll discuss how to find and successfully pursue internal and external funding that will help you reach the next level.

Fall 2026 Writing Retreat Agenda

Robin and Doug Shore Innovation Center, Marietta, GA

Time	Activity
2:00 – 2:45 PM	**Writing session / Consultations 4**
2:45 – 3:30 PM	Coffee Chats – small group discussions on targeted topics
3:30 – 4:15 PM	**Writing session / Consultations 5**
4:15 – 4:30 PM	Concluding remarks in Room 1115

Friday, December 18, 2026

Time	Activity
8:30 – 8:45 AM	Check-in and continental breakfast
8:45 – 9:30 AM	**Workshop: Finding Your Fit** This workshop will help you learn how to find opportunities and, more importantly, write a proposal that directly responds to the call. We'll share our tips and tricks for interpreting solicitations and consulting with program officers. Our examples will come from a variety of funding opportunities across disciplines and sponsors.
9:30 – 10:15 AM	**Writing session / Consultations 1** Write independently or book a 45-min consultation to receive personalized guidance in one of the themes below. • **Research roadmapping** – create a plan for your research program to achieve your mid- and long-term goals • **Proposal strategy** – develop a compelling proposal that is one of the few selected for funding • **Budget strategy** – develop a budget that meets the needs of your project and the sponsor guidelines • **Proposal logistics** – nuts and bolts of what you need to do to submit a proposal at KSU (Cayuse, federal grant portals, budget compliance, trainings, etc.) • **Education plan development** – considering an NSF EDU or CAREER grant? Learn how to design a robust education plan • **Publication coaching** – get feedback on how to get your work into an A+ journal • **Book proposal development** – how to convert your ideas and articles into the next bestseller
10:15 – 10:30 AM	Networking coffee break
10:30 – 11:15 PM	**Writing session / Consultations 2**
11:15 – 12:00 PM	**Writing session / Consultations 3**
12:00 – 12:45 PM	Networking lunch

Fall 2026 Writing Retreat Agenda

Robin and Doug Shore Innovation Center, Marietta, GA

Time	Activity
12:45 – 1:30 PM	**Writing session / Consultations 4**
1:30 – 2:15 PM	Coffee Chats – small group discussions on targeted topics
2:15 – 3:00 PM	**Writing session / Consultations 5**
3:00 – 3:45 PM	**Workshop: Maintaining Momentum** Build on what you've started in this retreat to achieve your goals. Writing groups are an excellent way to carve out time from your busy schedule, get and give support from peers, and advance your projects. We'll outline best practices for building an effective writing circle and give you an opportunity to join a writing group next semester with one of the goals listed below. • Book proposal • Peer-reviewed journal article • High-impact publication • Popular interest article • Practitioner article • NIH R15 proposal • NIH R16 proposal • NSF CAREER proposal
3:45 – 4:30 PM	Final reception on the first floor with closing remarks *tentatively* from interim Vice President for Research, Dr. Lawrence Whitman