

Building the Student-Centered Tutorial

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Combining tutoring techniques to meet
students where they are

Minimalist Tutoring

Stephen North and Jeff Brooks

- Encouraging writer engagement and responsibility by managing the tutorial's physical circumstances
 - Sit beside the student
 - leave the written work in front of the student
 - have the student read aloud
 - refuse to simply proofread and markup the work

Student-Centricity at the Heart of the Writing Center

“in a writing center, the object is to make sure that writers, and not necessarily their texts, are what get changed by instruction . . . Our job is to produce better writers, not better writing.”
(North)

Articulation Analysis

William E. De Herder

- Diagnostic framework relying on reflexive discourse
 - Drive the tutorial by asking questions
 - listening, careful consideration, and response
- Mentally outline the sessions' articulations (contradictions and alignments)
 - recognize how students' intent may be at odds with core writing center values
- Build rapport and incorporate students' context
 - create an atmosphere of collaboration

Scaffolding

Isabelle Thompson and Jo Mackiewicz

- intervene in the process of writing with a personalized “scaffold”
 - real-time modifications based on the continuous diagnosis of students' wants and needs
 - removable framework to teach iterative skills
- Contingent shift principle
 - tailor the strength of the intervention to the students' degree of success

Applying Techniques in Session

