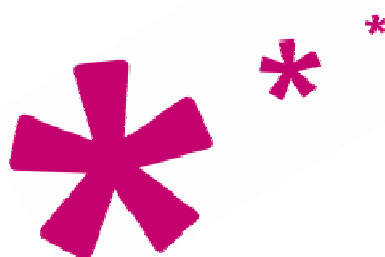


Establishing an Academic Writing Centre: Experiences, successes and failures of the first year, 2009-2010

By Writing Consultant and MA Rasmus Rønlev and Writing Consultant and Associated Professor, PhD Gitte Holten Ingerslev

The Danish School of Education, Aarhus University (DPU)



The Danish School of Education (DPU) is behind almost half of the educational research in Denmark. Some of the biggest and most productive research environments in the fields of didactics and pedagogy take place at DPU.

The school employs approximately 200 researchers in permanent positions and a total of 400 permanent staff. Approximately 4,000 students are enrolled in the school's programmes, making DPU the largest university school in Europe within its field.

DPU offers over twenty postgraduate programmes that live up to national and international standards for qualifications in the fields of education and learning. Entry to the programmes requires an academic Bachelor's degree, a professional Bachelor's degree or a college qualification. Approximately 4,000 students are enrolled. In addition, there are about 100 students enrolled in the PhD programme.

The student body comprises new graduates of Bachelor programmes, experienced social educators and teachers, consultants and self-employed people with their own companies who wish to have professional input to help them tackle complex tasks in firms and organisations. The majority of students have used their qualifying examination for a few years before choosing to continue their studies, a fact that contributes to making them attractive employees when they have completed their studies at DPU. It also means that many of the students on the one hand are highly knowledgeable within their area and have a lot of practical experience and on the other hand often need thorough guidance in academic writing since many of them have not written an academic paper for quite some years when they start at the school.

Academic Writing Centre (AWC)

The Academic Writing Centre (AWC) at The Danish School of Education, Aarhus University opened in September 2009. Currently, we are five employees at the centre: One full-time and three part-time writing consultants and one part-time student assistant. We support students at DPU in their academic writing through teaching, supervision and communication.



ACADEMIC WRITING CENTRE

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