Asking for help can be a terrifying task. Showing someone your writing, your personal (and sometimes private) ideas and thoughts poured onto a page, can also be a terrifying task. However, when you combine the two… you get the Norman H. Ott Memorial Center! This place is far from terrifying, and instead, welcomes you into the open arms of tutors such as myself who are more than happy to aid you in your writing process. Much like the Ott, I welcome any and all opportunities for diversity whether it be in experience, genre, discipline or beyond.

My number one goal as a tutor is ultimately to help writers feel more comfortable and confident in both the products of their writing and in the development of their writing skills. This starts with building rapport with a writer at the beginning of a conference, and asking what the writer specifically wants to focus on during our time together. As we venture through the paper/project/outline/etc., I will make notes on the strengths exhibited by the writer along with areas that could potentially use improvement, all while keeping the writer's concerns in mind (fear not, I can multitask well). This is when the fun part begins: we can begin to revise and brainstorm ways to help the writer come to take pride in their work and be pleased with the fruits of their labor. In addition, I try to help writers learn techniques specific to their strengths and weaknesses that help them with future writing endeavors.

My style of tutoring is rooted in empathy and kindness: I know how difficult and stressful writing can be, and I believe that the best way to improve and learn is with friendly collaboration. This means that you will most likely not experience blunt critique or pushy advice from me during our conference, rather, you will receive critiques and advice from me in a way that is always respectful and kind. My tutoring style also relies heavily on the belief that writing is a collaboration, in which multiple people help a writer along in the journey to a coveted final draft. In the case of writers and tutors, this involves cooperating with one another to rewrite phrases, reorganize sentences and paragraphs, and weave new or reworked ideas into one's writing.

Producing a piece of writing is hard. I urge you to allow yourself to be vulnerable and open to suggestions, help, and collaboration from others to make the writing process as simple and enjoyable as possible. In turn, I will strive to make our conference(s) as helpful and worthwhile as possible. Every time I work with a writer I also gain a new tidbit of information I would not have otherwise known, so I am counting on you, dear writer, to help me improve my skills as well. With our combined efforts of revision, we can attempt to make your work the best it can be! I look forward to working with you!