



WELCOME!

Thesis & Dissertation Day 2020

AGENDA

11:15-12:30pm **PLENARY SESSION**

Dr. Kathie Gossett

12:30-1:00pm **BREAK**

1:00-2:30pm **SESSION ONE**

Dr. Wrye Sententia

Dr. Jillian Azevedo

Kelly Crosby

Dr. Lisa Sperber

2:30-2:45pm **BREAK**

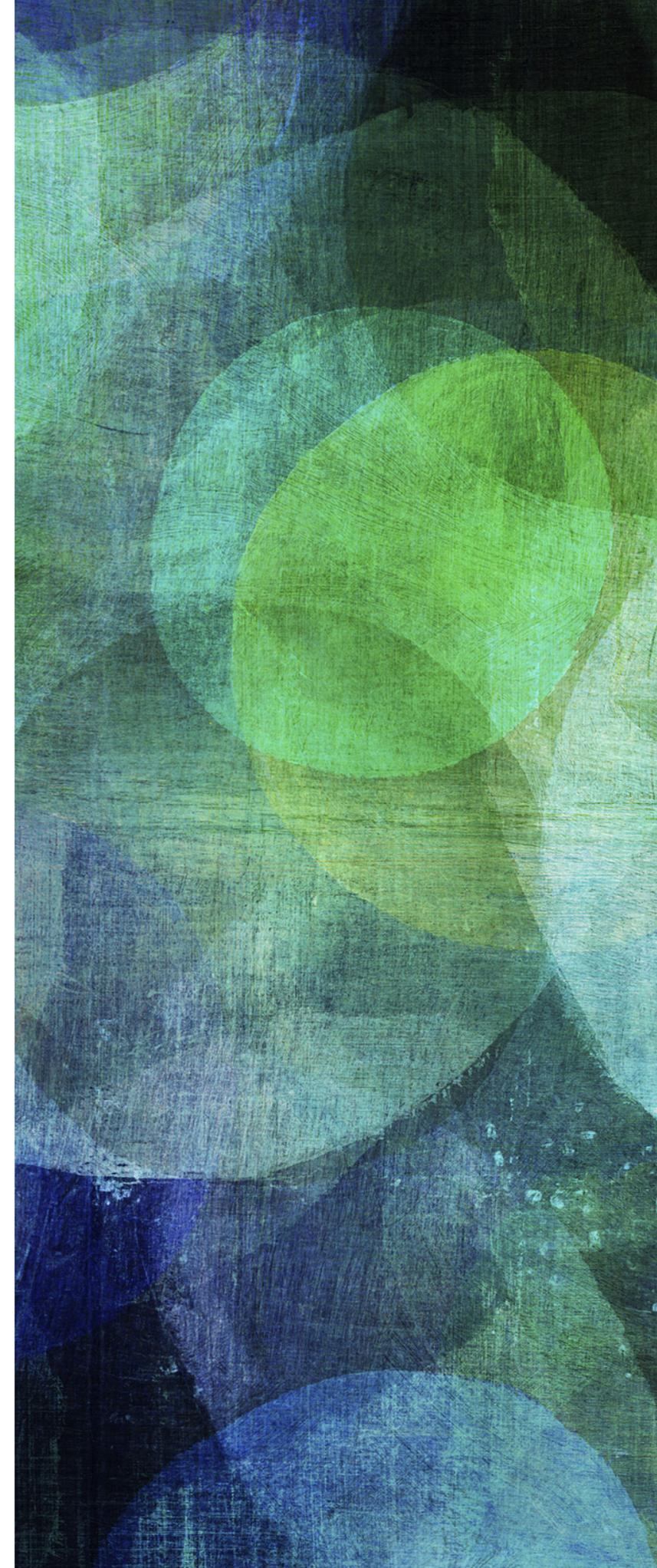
2:45-4:15PM **SESSION TWO**

Dr. Wrye Sententia

Dr. Elisabeth Lore

Dr. Cassie Hemstrom

Dr. Lisa Sperber



CREDITS/THANK YOUS!

Melissa Bender

*Writing Across the Curriculum Advisor
Thesis & Dissertation Day Coordinator*

Teresa Dillinger

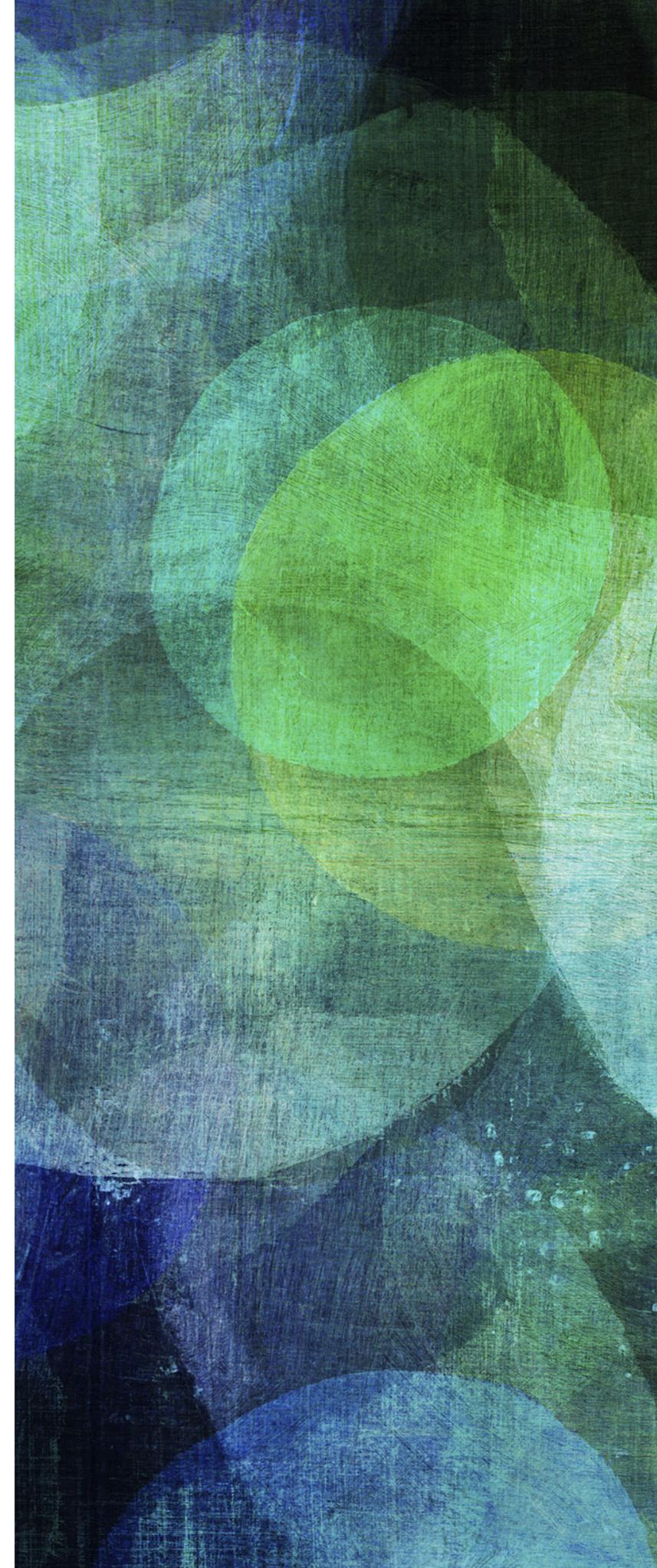
Director, GradPathways Institute

David Blancha

Assistant Director, GradPathways Institute

Olga Garzon-Lopez

Administrative Analyst, GradPathways Institute



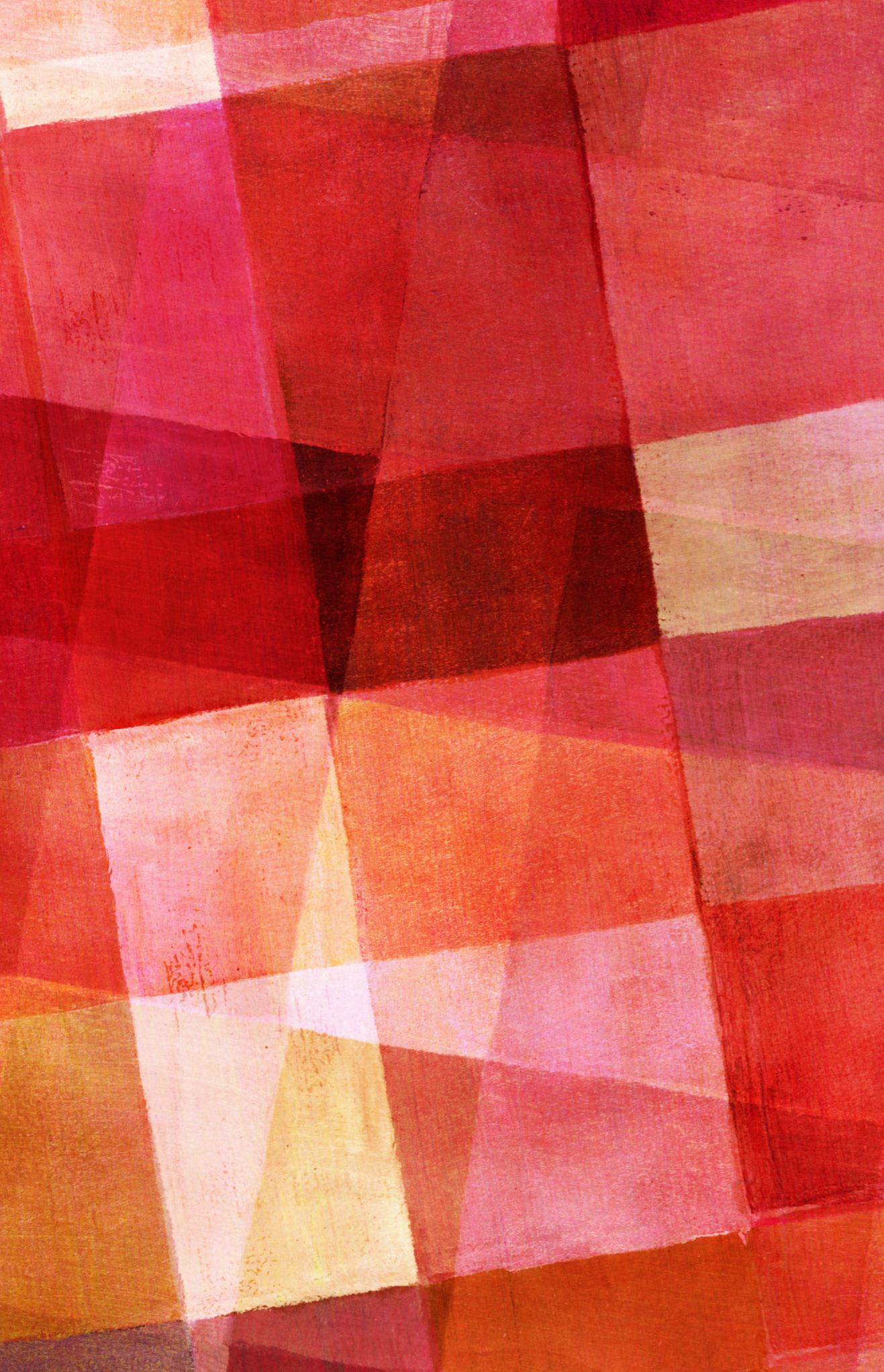
GRADUATE WRITING ACROSS THE CURRICULUM



Dr. Kathie Gossett
Associate Director, GWAC

GRADUATE WRITING ACROSS THE CURRICULUM

- Focused on notion that writing should be integral part of learning process
- Based on premise that writing is highly situated & tied to a field's discourse
- Promotes engaged student learning, critical thinking, & greater facility with written communication
- Provides resources for graduate students and faculty across the UC Davis campus



GRADUATE WRITING SERVICES

- Writing Consultations
- Writing Retreats
- Writing Workshops
- Writing Partner Program
- Certificate in Writing Theory & Practice

WRITING CONSULTATIONS



- Graduate Writing Fellows (GWFs) offer one-on-one consultations
 - Engage in conversations about your writing
 - Receive feedback on clarity of thoughts, organization of ideas, etc.
 - Identify patterns of error
 - Work on writing in low-stakes, low-stress environment
 - *Do not proofread or provide editing services*
- <https://writing.ucdavis.edu/gradwriting/consultations>

WRITING RETREATS



- Opportunities for graduate students and post-docs to dedicate time to writing
- Retreats are 3 hours long, and are hosted by GWF
- GWF offers drop-in, minimal consultation services
- Retreat times available on our website:
- <https://writing.ucdavis.edu/gradwriting/retreats>

WRITING WORKSHOPS



- Workshops offered by UWP faculty WAC consultants
- Topics include:
 - Writing the Literature Review
 - Writing a Grant Proposal
 - Overcoming Writer's Block
 - Multilingual Student Writing
- Schedule of Workshops
- <https://writing.ucdavis.edu/gradwriting/workshops>

WRITING PARTNER PROGRAM



- Writing Partner Program creates mutually beneficial writing relationships
- Working with a peer can provide helpful feedback & accountability
- Graduate Writing Services provides matching services
 - Choose your commitment level
 - Work with someone in your field or in other fields
- <https://writing.ucdavis.edu/gradwriting/writing-partner-program>

CERTIFICATE IN WRITING THEORY & PRACTICE



- For graduate students & post-docs seeking to enhance their writing practice
 - Deepen your knowledge of writing theory & practice
 - Learn about incorporating writing into your teaching
 - Grow your professional skill set
 - Additional qualification for your CV
- Certificate can be completed in 1 year
- <https://writing.ucdavis.edu/gradwriting/certificate>

QUESTIONS & CONTACT

➤ <https://writing.ucdavis.edu/gradwriting>



Dr. Kathie Gossett

Associate Director, Graduate Writing Across the Curriculum

kegossett@ucdavis.edu



Stacy Wittstock

Lead Graduate Writing Fellow

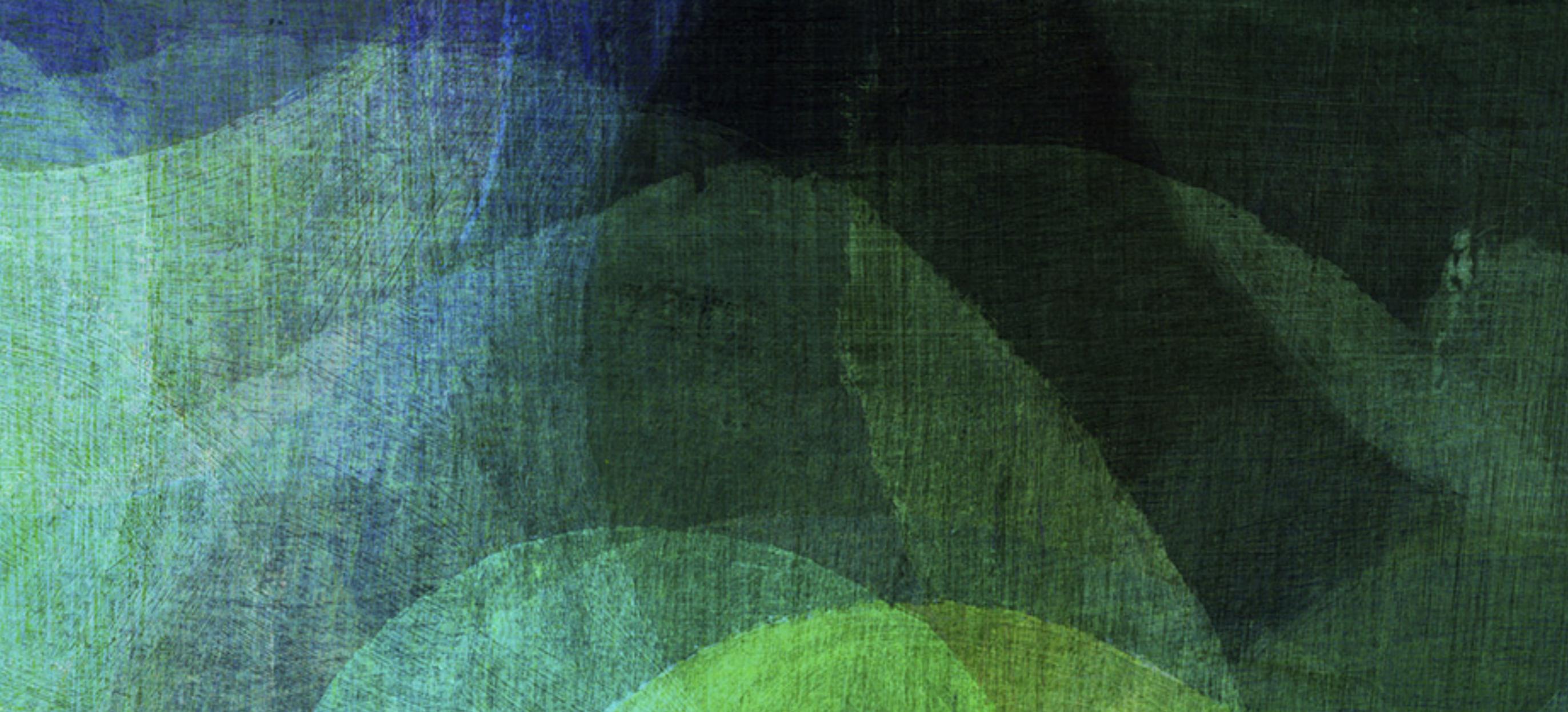
snwittstock@ucdavis.edu



“

A word after a word after a word is
power.

~*Margaret Atwood*

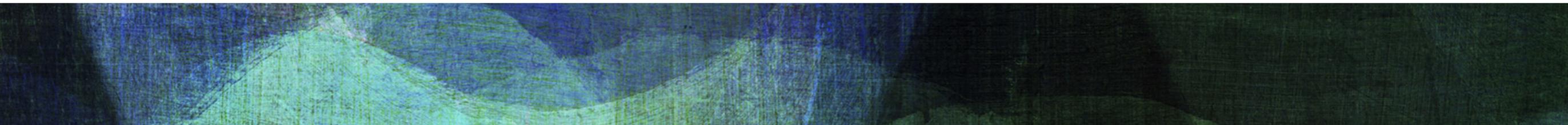


GETTING STARTED ~ GETTING DONE

Establishing Priorities & Setting Goals for your Thesis or Dissertation

OVERVIEW OF SESSION

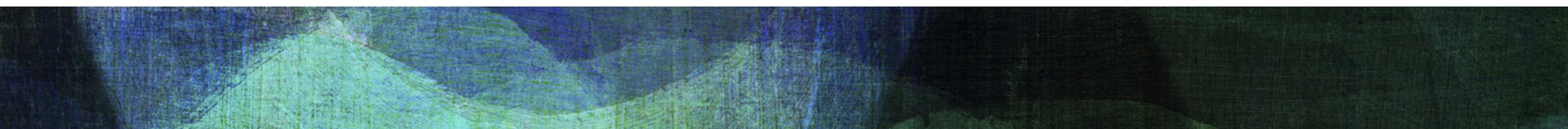
- *Establish priorities for work surrounding your thesis or dissertation*
- *Reflect on your available resources to facilitate success*
- *Draft a mission statement for your project*
- *Establish clear goals and the ways to achieve them*
- *Design a work plan*



ESTABLISH YOUR PRIORITIES

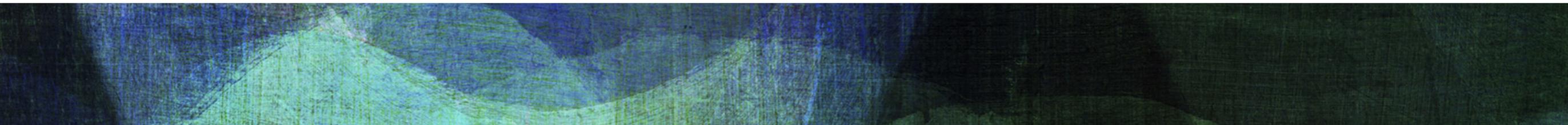
Place 3-4 daily/weekly activities (academic and non-academic) into the following quadrants.

	Urgent	Not Urgent
Important		
Not Important		



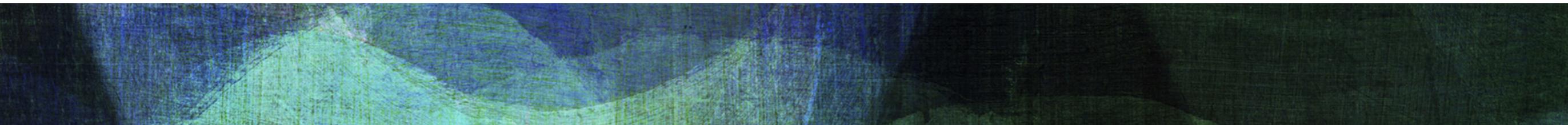
ORDER YOUR PRIORITIES

- *Out of the priorities you listed, which are the most important? Which are the least?*
- *Can you attach a number value to each item, with 1 being the most important priority?*
- *What does this tell you about the work you need to accomplish on your thesis or dissertation?*
- *What do you have to accomplish these priorities?*
- *What do you need to accomplish these priorities?*



REFLECT ON YOUR PRIORITIES

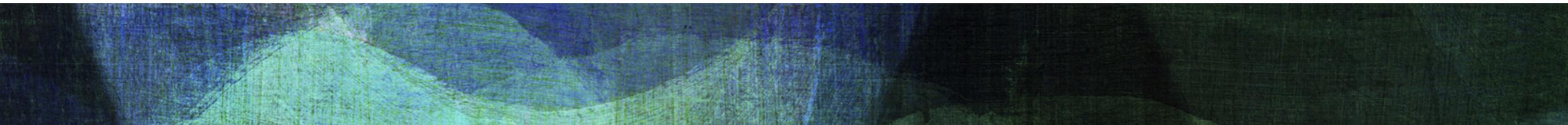
- *What is “important” and “urgent” for you?*
- *What is “important” and “not urgent” for you?*
- *Where did you place “writing” in your priorities?*
 - *How can you move writing into the “important” and “urgent” area, if it did not already fall there?*
 - *What other changes do you need to see in your priorities in order to make progress on, or complete, your thesis or dissertation?*
- *Breakout Groups*



INVENTORY OF “HAVES” AND “NEEDS”

Take a few minutes to complete a table of what you “have” and what you “need” around different aspects of your thesis or dissertation.

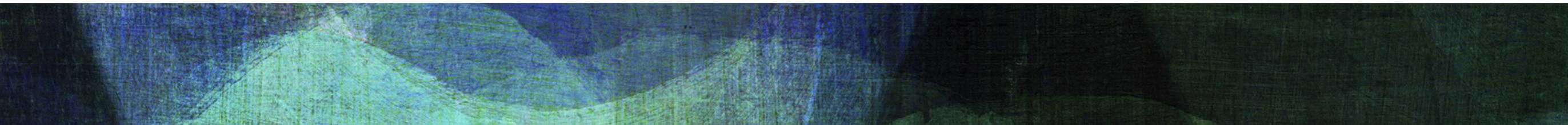
Item	Have	Need
Collect Data	Data collection site, method	Feedback, IRB approval
Analyze Data	Deadlines, data, general idea on trends	Focus, relevancy, hierarchy of themes
Literature Review	Outline	Write first draft
Chapter 2	Second draft	Feedback from advisor



INVENTORY OF “CANS” AND “SHOULD NOTS”

What are your strengths in getting writing (or research) done (aka your “Cans”)? What do you criticize yourself for not doing (aka you “Should Nots”)?

CAN	SHOULD NOT
Write a lot in concentrated chunks of time	Get easily distracted
Be creative and inventive	Fail to allocate enough time for writing
Identify useful resources	Write in isolation
Make lists	Wait for inspiration



MISSION STATEMENT

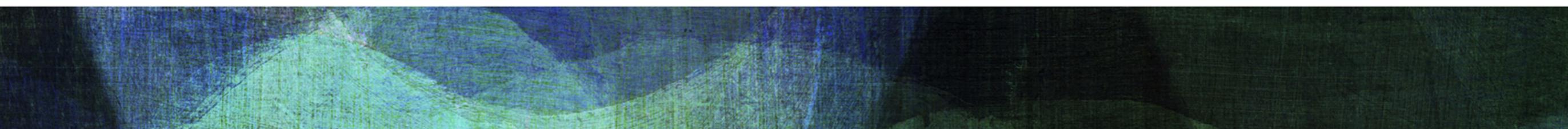
First, identify and write your mission statement.

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Personal mission statements should provide a framework for your efforts and help define how you'll approach your [research & writing] in the coming year.¹

¹Hull, P. (2012, December). 3 tips for a resolution you'll keep: Your personal statement.

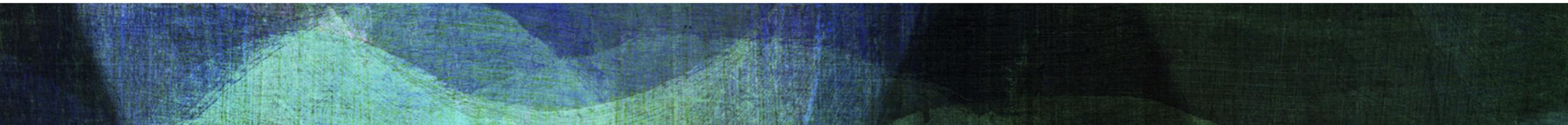
Forbes. Retrieved from <https://www.forbes.com/>



MISSION STATEMENT

A mission statement should answer the following questions:

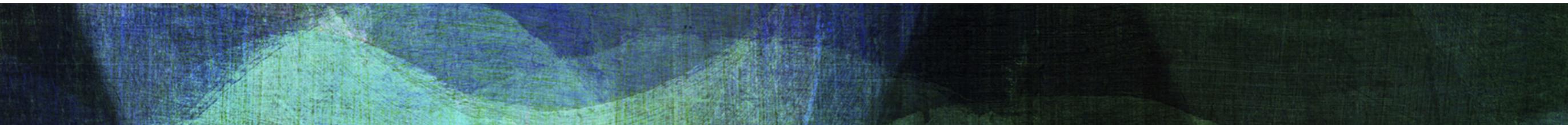
- 1. What do you do?*
- 2. How do you do it?*
- 3. Whom do you do it for?*
- 4. What value do you and your work bring?*



MISSION STATEMENT

My 2020 Mission Statement:

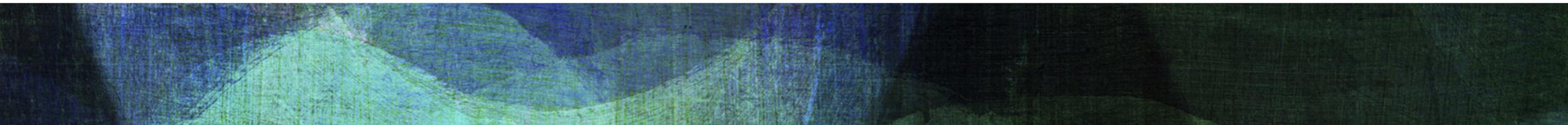
I will support my students, both graduate and undergraduate, by continuing my education through studying the scholarship of teaching and learning and putting those theories into practice. I will continue to mentor students and advocate for them at all levels. I will seek to provide opportunities for students to improve their writing and research by continuing to design and develop innovative technologies to assist them in their academic endeavors.



SETTING GOALS

Then, set goals that support that mission.

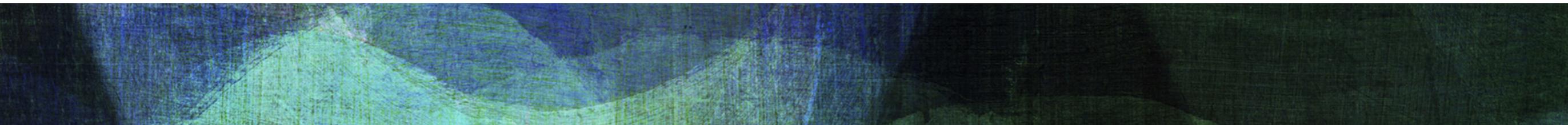
1. ***Be precise:** put in dates, times and amounts so that achievement can be measured, then you know the exact goals to be achieved, and can take complete satisfaction from having completely achieved them.*
2. ***Set priorities:** where you have several goals, give each one a priority. This helps you to avoid feeling overwhelmed by too many goals, and helps direct your attention to the most important ones.*
3. ***Record goals:** write goals down to avoid confusion and give them more force.*
4. ***Set realistic goals:** keep the goals you are working towards small and achievable. If a goal is too large, it can seem that you are not making progress. You should take care to set goals over which you have as much control as possible.*
5. ***Hold yourself accountable:** ask a mentor or trusted friend to meet with you on a regular basis (weekly, monthly, quarterly, etc.) to discuss your progress, goals, and mission statement.*



CHECK YOUR GOALS

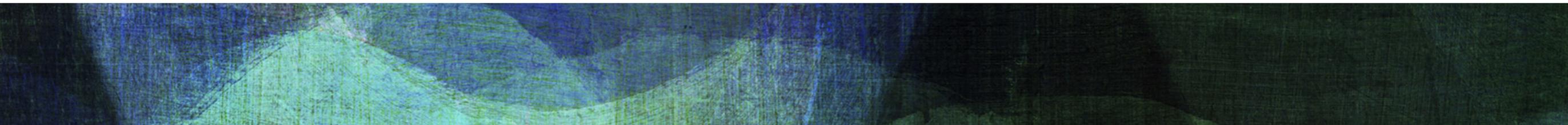
Think a goal through by asking yourself these questions:

- *What skills do I need to achieve this?*
- *What information and knowledge do I need?*
- *What help, assistance, or collaboration do I need?*
- *What resources do I need?*
- *What can block progress?*
- *Am I making any assumptions?*
- *Is there a better way of doing things?*



TRACK YOUR GOALS

Goal	Strategies	Preparation	Start Date	End Date
Write from 9am to 11 am Monday thru Friday	Turn off internet from 9-11am Do not edit or proofread any writing until 11am Fridays	Clear desk the night before Answer emails between 8-9 am	December 15, 2020	June 15, 2021
Meet with writing group once every two weeks	Have 1-2 pages of writing prepared for each group meeting	Organize group Select a group meeting time/place	January 2020	June 2021



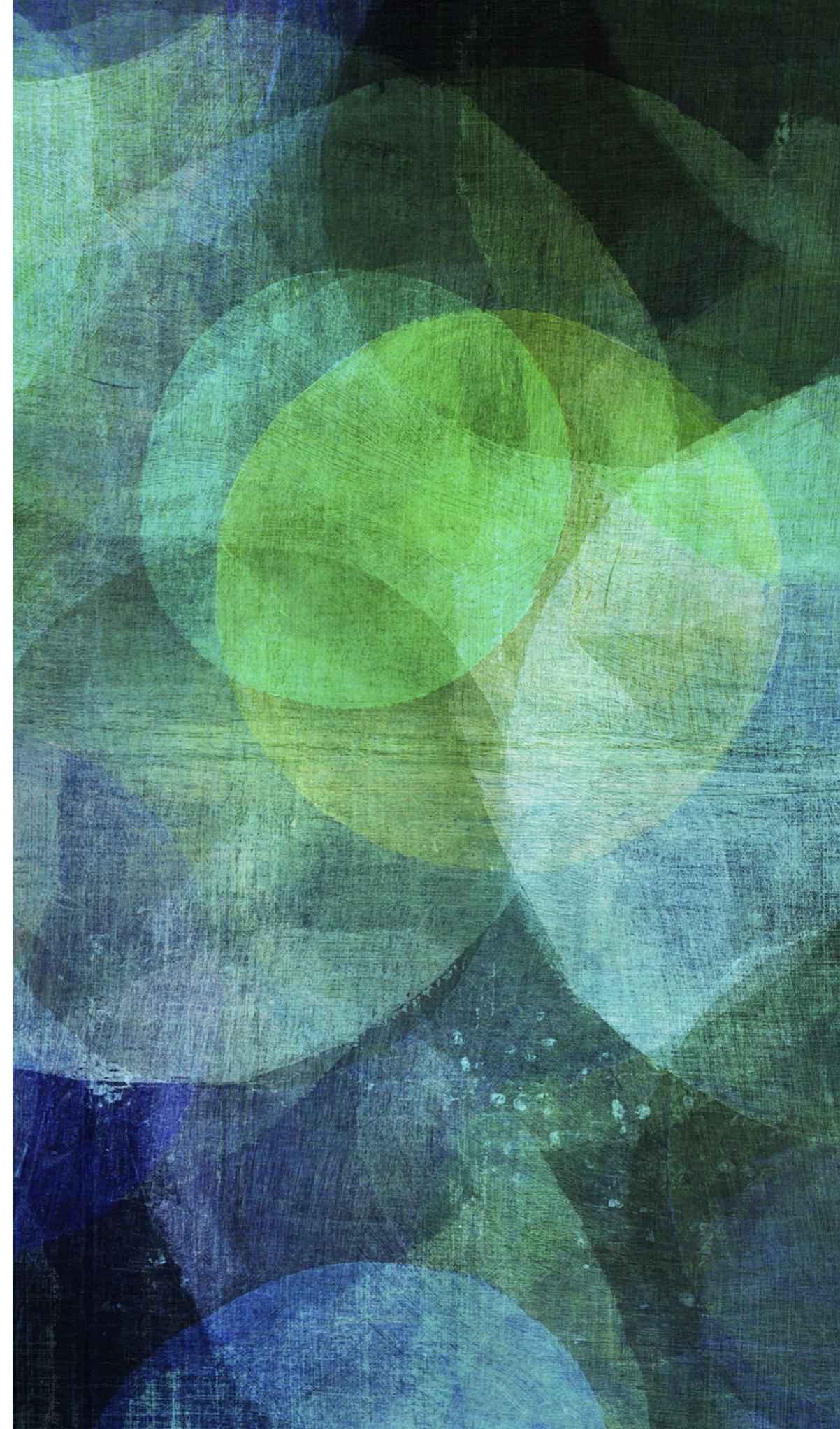
REVIEW YOUR GOALS

What do you need to add, subtract, or rearrange in order to be productive on your thesis or dissertation? Add or omit a line or column to meet your needs.

Goal	Strategies	Preparation	Start Date	End Date	Evaluation
Write from 9am to 11 am Monday thru Friday	Turn off internet from 9-11am Do not edit or proofread any writing until 11am Fridays	Clear desk the night before Answer emails between 8-9 am	December 15, 2020	June 15, 2021	Week 1: 90% Week 2: 50% Week 3: 85%
Meet with writing group once every two weeks	Have 1-2 pages of writing prepared for each group meeting	Organize group Select a group meeting time/place	January 2020	June 2021	Organized group Need meeting time/place still

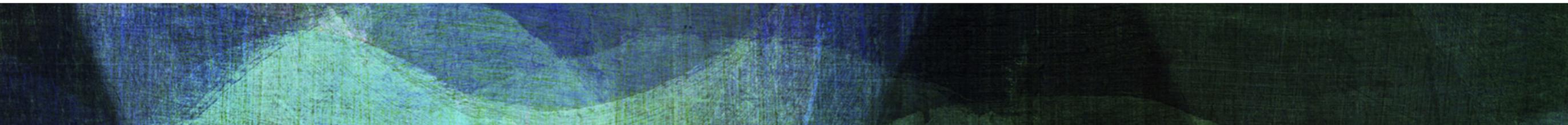
STRATEGIES TO ACHIEVE GOALS

1. Approach your goals mindfully
 - *Create healthy and productive practices*
 - *Be mindful of self-care*
2. Use resources to facilitate progress
 - *On campus resources*
 - *Off campus resources*
3. Don't work in isolation
 - *Create a writing group for motivation and accountability*
4. Set up routines that lead to habits
5. Build in rewards and punishments



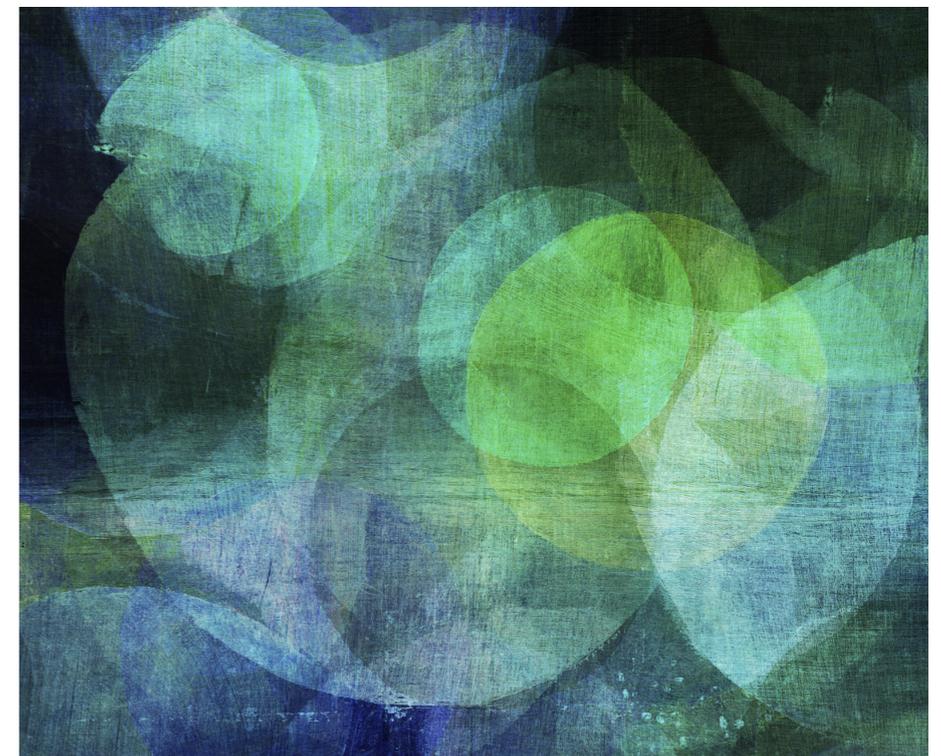
APPROACH WRITING MINDFULLY

1. Taking care of yourself will facilitate the writing process
 - *Sleep, diet, exercise, etc.*
2. Mental health services are available for graduate students
3. Support your physical health at the ARC--where services and classes are available
4. Quiet the negative self-talk
5. Focus on short-term challenges and solutions
 - *Define your challenge*
 - *Match the strategy or solution to the problem*



PRIORITIZE BEFORE YOU LEAVE

1. Establish a hierarchy of needs/goals
2. Locate resources that will facilitate your hierarchy
 - *On campus resources*
 - *Off campus resources*
3. Make an appointment with a Graduate Writing Fellow!



QUESTIONS?

*Contact me:
kegossett@ucdavis.edu*

writing.ucdavis.edu/gradwriting

