



Writing Anxiety & Procrastination



The Brick Wall of a New Genre

Genre doesn't just refer to things like horror or science fiction; it refers to any type of writing for which you can point out specific expectations.

Genre Expectations of Horror Movies: jump scares, Big Bad Evil Thing, sinister music, etc.

Genre Expectations for Theses & Dissertations: long-form, academic style, chapters, IMRaD, etc.

Thesis and dissertation writing is a brand new genre. You've been used to working in the "school writing" genre, and now you're moving into "professional writing."

Genre Expectations of School Writing: purpose is just to complete assignments, done in short time frames, in order to demonstrate knowledge or skills to an audience of just your teachers, in exchange for grades or other forms of evaluation

Genre Expectations of Professional Writing: purpose is to communicate research findings or arguments in a field of inquiry, done in a much longer time frame, to an audience of other researchers in your field, in exchange for professional satisfaction, recognition, and credentials

A new genre is always an uncomfortable place to be. You are learning how to write while you are writing, which isn't easy for anyone. Every one of your professors, mentors, and cohort have experienced or are experiencing the same thing, and

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Tips to Overcome Writing Anxiety and Procrastination

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