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The Purdue Online Writing Lab: Engaging with Local and Global Communities of Writers

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The Purdue Online Writing Lab
Engaging with Local & Global Communities of Writers

The Purdue Online Writing Lab, or the Purdue OWL, was created in 1995 by Dr. Muriel Harris, then director of the Purdue University Writing Lab, and a group of her graduate students. What was originally an internal service, providing Purdue University students, faculty, and staff access to writing instruction, has since evolved into a vital online resource for writers around the world. The current version of the Purdue OWL serves as a global community of writers, students, teachers, and practitioners. The Purdue OWL is home to hundreds of resources that are provided free-of-charge to users. These resources cover a wide range of topics, from APA and MLA style formatting to conducting research. All of the materials found on the Purdue OWL are reviewed and edited by a team of experts in their respective fields, ensuring that the content is accurate and up-to-date.

Our success in serving writers around the world stems from our commitment to excellence in content and service. We strive to provide the highest quality resources and support to our users. The OWL has been used by millions of writers from around the world, and our team of editors and content creators works tirelessly to ensure that our resources are relevant and useful.

Local Community Engagement

The Purdue OWL has also had a significant impact on the Purdue community. The Purdue OWL has partnered with the Lafayette Adult Resource Academy (LARA) to create a Community Writing and Education Station (CWEST). The OWL has provided resources and support to LARA, helping them to develop their programs in the General Education Development (GED) testing. The OWL’s resources on writing and research have been instrumental in helping LARA’s students improve their writing and research skills.

Purdue OWL Vidocasts

In 2012, the Purdue OWL launched its first vidoecast series, which has since grown to include over 260 videos covering a wide range of topics. These videos are hosted through the YouTube video service and are accessible to writers, students, and teachers all over the globe.

"Your site has been so useful. I am the chief instructor at NYUIC, an intensive academic English language program in Tokyo. We are proud of our strong writing programs and really want to emphasize the MLA portion more. Your site is perfect. If I can provide any information on how we use your materials, please let me know. Thanks for your hard work and contribution to the educational community."