

Beacon Street Lab

Writing & Critical Thinking Programs

Great writers are great thinkers.

Our Approach

We work at the intersection of writing and thinking. Our goal is not only to improve how students write, but how they develop, structure, and express ideas.

CLARITY OF THOUGHT

Students learn to structure ideas, build arguments, and develop logical coherence on the page.

STRENGTH OF EXPRESSION

We refine language, tone, and precision so students can communicate ideas with clarity and control.

INTELLECTUAL INDEPENDENCE

Students learn to think for themselves, engage critically with ideas, and move beyond formulaic approaches to writing.

Program Structure

Each student follows a structured, individualized program designed to strengthen both writing and thinking over time.

DIAGNOSTIC & STARTING POINT

Students begin with a short diagnostic to assess how they structure ideas, use language, and approach writing under time constraints.

WEEKLY ONE-ON-ONE SESSIONS

Each week, students work closely with their instructor to develop arguments, refine their thinking, and practice writing with clarity and control.

WRITING BETWEEN SESSIONS

Students complete focused writing assignments designed to reinforce key skills and build consistency over time.

DETAILED FEEDBACK & REVISION

All work receives detailed written and verbal feedback, guiding students through revision and helping them strengthen both ideas and expression.

Our instructors are selected, trained, and held to an exceptional standard.

Beacon Street Lab works with a carefully selected group of instructors with advanced degrees in writing, literature, and related fields. Many have taught at leading universities and are published writers in their own right. Beyond credentials, we look for something more rare: the ability to develop a student's thinking through writing. Every instructor is trained in our approach and works closely with us to ensure consistency, rigor, and depth.

ADVANCED ACADEMIC BACKGROUNDS

Instructors hold degrees from leading institutions and have deep training in writing and critical thinking.

PUBLISHED WRITERS & SCHOLARS

Many of our instructors are published authors, researchers, or creative writers actively engaged in their field.

EXPERIENCED EDUCATORS

Our instructors bring years of experience teaching writing at the secondary school and university level.

TRAINED IN THE BEACON METHOD

All instructors are trained in our approach, with a focus on developing clarity of thought, structure, and precision.

Our programs are designed to develop strong thinkers and precise writers.

Our programs are tailored to each student, but generally focus on four core areas. Across all programs, the emphasis remains the same: developing clarity of thought, structure, and precision in writing.

Critical & Analytical Writing

Students learn to build structured arguments, support ideas with evidence, and write clear, well-organized analytical essays.

Areas of focus:

- argument construction
- paragraph structure
- evidence and analysis
- clarity and coherence

Creative Writing

Students develop their voice, imagination, and control of language through storytelling, descriptive writing, and narrative structure.

Areas of focus:

- storytelling and narrative arc
- imagery and detail
- voice and style
- creative expression with discipline

Research & Essay Writing

Students learn how to research effectively, evaluate sources, and develop sustained, well-supported written arguments.

Areas of focus:

- research skills
- source evaluation
- structuring long-form essays
- integrating evidence

Academic & Exam Writing (IB, AP, GCSE)

We help students meet the writing expectations of rigorous academic programs, where clarity, structure, and depth of analysis are essential.

Areas of focus:

- analytical essays under time constraints
- structuring exam responses
- developing precise arguments
- writing with clarity and control

*Instructor introductions are made after the diagnostic assessment, once we have identified the right match for each student.

What students learn to do.

**The goal is not simply better writing, but better thinking.
These are not short-term improvements, but lasting shifts
in how students develop, structure, and express ideas.**

THINK CLEARLY AND INDEPENDENTLY

Students learn to organize their thoughts, question assumptions, and develop their own ideas with clarity.

WRITE STRUCTURED, WELL-REASONED ARGUMENTS

Students learn to build arguments step by step, support claims with evidence, and communicate ideas logically on the page.

EXPRESS IDEAS WITH PRECISION AND CONTROL

Students develop a strong command of language, allowing them to write with clarity, nuance, and confidence.

MOVE BEYOND FORMULAIC WRITING

Students learn to think critically and engage with ideas in a deeper, more original way.

APPROACH COMPLEX TEXTS WITH CONFIDENCE

Students become more capable readers, able to analyze, interpret, and respond to challenging material.

DEVELOP LASTING INTELLECTUAL HABITS

Over time, students build the habits of mind that support strong thinking, writing, and learning across disciplines.

How it works.

Ages

Students typically work with us between the ages of 10 and 17.

Format

All sessions are conducted one-on-one, allowing for a highly personalized and focused learning experience.

Instructors

Students work with carefully selected instructors with advanced backgrounds in writing, literature, and related fields.

Session Structure

Most students meet with their instructor once per week for a 60-minute session.

Work Between Sessions

Students complete focused writing assignments between sessions to reinforce key skills and build consistency.

Feedback

All work receives detailed written and verbal feedback, supporting revision and continued improvement over time.

*Fees

Please contact us for current rates and availability.

Writing is not just a skill.
It is how ideas are formed, tested, and refined.
To write well is to think well.

