



CHEI
Centre for Higher Education
Internationalisation

CHEI Milan Writing Marathon

AID STATIONS AND CLINICS

Across the week, participants will encounter recurring tensions in academic writing—between clarity and complexity, productivity and reflection, critique and confidence—which the Aid Stations and Clinics are designed to help navigate rather than resolve. Aid Stations are structured group activities, and clinics are individual follow up meetings.

Monday June 15 - Orientation & Momentum

Goal: Reduce ambiguity and enable starting.

Aid Station 1: Conditions - Defining the Writing Focus

A short intervention to clarify what you are writing this week, for whom, and what realistic progress looks like by Friday.

Aid Station 2: Argument - From Topic to Claim

A focused session to articulate a provisional claim and use AI as a clarity mirror to test whether it is clear, specific, and worth developing.

Tuesday June 16 - Flow and Structure

Goal: Sustain writing, build internal coherence and build the narrative

Aid Station 3: Argument - How Your Ideas Move for the Reader

A focused intervention to examine how a reader experiences the progression of ideas, identifying where the draft carries them forward and where it causes friction or confusion.

Aid Station 4: Cognitive Tools - Reverse Outlining & Clarity Checks

A practical session using AI to make the structure of an existing draft visible, helping writers test whether paragraphs and sections are doing what they are intended to do.



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Wednesday June 17 - Doubt, Critique & Recalibration

Aid Station 5: Critique - Productive Self-Critique & Recalibration

A structured pause to help writers identify which issues in their draft genuinely require attention now, and which can be set aside without undermining progress.

Aid Station 6: Conditions - Managing Energy, Expectations & Limits

An intervention focused on recalibrating pace, scope, and effort by aligning writing goals with actual energy, time constraints, and cognitive load.

Thursday June 18 - Argument, Confidence & Coherence

Aid Station 7: Argument - Claims, Counterarguments & Reader Positioning

A focused intervention to sharpen the central claim, anticipate plausible objections, and position the argument clearly for an informed but critical reader.

Aid Station 8: Critique - Processing Feedback Without Losing Your Voice

An intervention using AI in conversation to test feedback against the writer's argument, supporting deliberate decisions about what to incorporate, adapt, or resist.