

## **I Feel I Wrote That:**

### **A Fictional Toolbox**

In a time when we can task an AI with sifting through archives to extract knowledge and use it to write entire chapters, we may find ourselves losing touch with our own writing. How can we trust that a laborious writing process will be worth it? What defines my text? Is it still possible to develop a distinctive voice?

In "I feel I wrote that," we're searching for what psychology calls the "felt sense": it describes an inner orientation, a physical and emotional sense of connection to oneself and to the outside world. When, as a reader, I can empathize with the author's "felt sense" in a text, I instinctively follow their experience and, almost automatically, form a theory about what is being conveyed here. In our workshop, we'll read theoretical texts by scholars who use narrative structures, situations, and characters to make their concepts tangible. We'll explore dramaturgical tools that are also used in plays, novels, and essays, and examine to what extent we can apply them to academic writing.

#### **Key questions we'll explore:**

- How is the research translated into language?
- When does a text appeal to us not only cognitively but also sensually?
- When is language embodied, how does it evoke affects?
- What temporality, what spatiality does the text use?
- How quickly are the arguments driven forward?
- Where does everything slow down?
- What do we perceive as complex and what as complicated?
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Using drafts brought in by participants, we'll take a few steps through the writing process together. How can I tap into the "felt sense" of my text, and how might I apply elements of the dramaturgical toolbox myself?

To build lasting confidence in our writing, we'll conclude by focusing on your writing practice. Which inner resources help you stay focused and fully engaged in such a demanding process? At the end of this workshop, you might get an idea of how to guide your writing voice more consciously and to cultivate a lively contact with your felt sense and your readership.

**Date/Time:** Friday, 16 October, 9:00–17:00 & Saturday, 17 October, 10:00–16:00

**Venue:** University of Basel

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