

Academic Support Center

Introduction

The Department of Academic Support offers a variety of learning support programs described below. These include the Tutoring Center and centers specializing in reading, writing, math, study skills, oral presentations, and English as a second language.

Tutoring Center

Students who desire help beyond their regular classroom instruction may seek assistance at the Tutoring Center. Tutors are chosen from students who have succeeded academically in the class, completed a tutor-training program, and have been approved by their department. There is no cost for this service; however, students are encouraged to seek first all possible help from instructors and class help sessions before signing up for tutoring. To sign up and schedule tutoring appointments, see the tutor request link on your my.byui.edu page.

Reading Center

The Reading Center offers help with basic and advanced reading skills in the Center. Tutors strive to give students an opportunity to improve those reading strategies necessary for college success. Students who come to the Reading Center may work to improve any of the following: vocabulary, reading comprehension, spelling, study skills, and reading efficiency. The center offers a study buddy program to any student who needs assistance in organizing and completing assignments. (Students participating in this program may register for credit (Eng. 102) or may come for no credit). Students of all abilities are served at the Reading Center. Many come for help with understanding reading assignments and general study support in their classes. Everyone and anyone is welcome.

English Transitional Center

The English Transitional Center (ETC) is designed to help students with English as a Second Language (ESL) adjust to their role as matriculated college students. The ETC helps students improve and practice their listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills. Through English 102 modules, students may receive individual (peer tutor) help with pronunciation, grammar, writing, vocabulary, reading comprehension, and conversation skills. English 102 may be taken for credit or non credit. English 108 (orientation and verbal communication) and English 109 (writing) are classroom setting courses offered to ESL students. Students receive college credit towards graduation for all of these courses.

Writing Center

The Writing Center provides a relaxed environment for students who want to improve their writing skills. Qualified student assistants work individually with writers in free, twenty-minute sessions. Walk-ins are welcome. Because the Center teaches writing as “re-writing,” students may expect help throughout the writing process as they move their papers from rough drafts to the final product. Writing assistants and students work together to accomplish the following:

- Discover and generate ideas for essays
- Compose strong introductions and conclusions
- Develop support through detailed, concrete discussions
- Organize and focus evidence
- Construct topic sentences and transitions
- Write research papers, resumes and letters of applications, proposals, summaries, responses, and literary critiques
- Reinforce skills through practicing on C.L.I.P.S. *a computer program that utilizes rules, advice, examples, and computer drills to strengthen weak areas in punctuation, grammar, and usage

The writing assistants work as an objective audience for writers and involve students directly in the critical thinking/writing process. The Writing Center is a great resource for students especially when they come for assistance in the early stages of the drafting process.

MATH STUDY CENTER

The Math Study Center provides support for all math students on campus with three separate services:

The drop-in Math Study Center is open 55 hours per week, 9 am - 5 pm on Monday and Friday, 9 am - 9 pm on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and 11 am - 2 pm on Saturday, (closed for devotionals and forums) with a staff of tutors available to answer math questions for all math classes. Test review is also available for Math 100 and 101.

One-on-one tutors: This service is recommended for those desiring more individualized help than what is offered in the drop-in center. Free tutors are available for all math classes offered at BYU–Idaho. One-on-one tutoring sessions can be scheduled online. Go to my.byui.edu and under the links select Tutor Request. Any inquiries can be directed to MCK 272.

Math requirement preparation courses (Math 100A, Math 100B, and Math 101) are designed to prepare students for their university math requirements: They are taught in a lecture based setting by a dynamic group of professors.

Study Skills Center

The Study Skills Center assists students in improving their study practices. Students may obtain help through one-on-one counseling, enrollment in one of several study skills courses, or through self-help tutorials, assessments, and handouts.

GS-105 College Success is a two credit semester long course designed to help students make a smooth transition from high school to BYU-Idaho. The purpose of the class is to introduce students to the BYU-Idaho Learning Model, equip students with basic college study skills, familiarize students with campus resources, and connect students with academic planning tools. The GS-103 A-F study skills modules are six .5 credit online courses that are four weeks in duration and offered each block. These modules include:

- Concentration
- Note Taking and Listening
- Thinking Skills
- Textbook Study
- Time Management
- Test Taking Skills

To identify academic weaknesses, students may take an online self assessment of their study practices on the following link: <https://tutortrack.byui.edu/tracweb40/main.4sp?orl=S-ASSESS-byu2010>

For more information, please visit us in the McKay Library, room 291.

Presentation Center

The Presentation Practice Center (PPC) is designed to help students develop, practice, and polish oral presentations in a professional and confident manner. Help is available for speeches, presentations, and teaching, to all university students in all majors/disciplines. The PPC has trained tutors who coach individuals and/or groups in a positive and constructive manner. Tutors assist the participant by developing confidence in public speaking, creating outlines, developing topics,

and using technologies. Recordings of sessions can be provided for further student evaluations and critique. Sign up for an appointment online to meet with tutors and practice presentations in an environment with up-to-date equipment.

Online Tutoring

Students who are not currently living in the Rexburg area have access to several online tutoring options. Video tutorials are available on the Academic Support Centers website to help clarify concepts that students frequently struggle with. Students also have the option to chat with a math or writing tutor. Finally, students who need additional help can sign up for a tutoring session with an online tutor. These sessions utilize technologies like Skype to help simulate a face-to-face tutoring experience. The services are available at no cost to the student. For more information or to schedule an appointment, please visit the Academic Support Centers website.

Volunteer Connection Center

The Volunteer Connection Center offers academically related volunteer opportunities and services. We have ten volunteer tutoring labs for students to get help in science and language courses, an online volunteer tutor matching service, mentoring, and offer advertising experience for practicum credit. We also promote meaningful academic service in Pathway Speaking Partners, and Gateway Seminars. All services offered are made possible through student leaders and student volunteers. We support teaching and learning on campus as well as foster academic success and personal growth for all who participate.

To find out more about our services or to give back in academic service please visit: www.byui.edu/Volunteer-Connection