

Department of

# Academic Learning

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**Introduction**

The Academic Learning Department offers a variety of learning support programs described below. These include the Tutoring Center and centers specializing in reading, writing, math, study skills, and English as a second language. Services for students with disabilities is also housed within the department.

**Tutoring Center**

Students who desire help beyond their regular classroom instruction may seek assistance at the Tutoring Center. Individual, group, or walk-in sessions are available. 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](http://my.byui.edu) page.

**Reading Center**

The Reading Center helps students improve basic reading skills as well as learn the skills necessary to study university textbooks. Students receiving help at the Reading Center may register for credit or complete a non-credit program.

Each student receives individual diagnosis, advising, and instruction. The Reading Center offers one-on-one tutoring for comprehension, phonics, vocabulary, efficient textbook reading and critical thinking. In addition, reading courses offer instruction in comprehension and specific reading skills (English 101), and the study of university textbooks (English 107). A writing course (English 106) emphasizes basic writing conventions.

**English Transitional Center (ETC)**

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 101 modules, students may receive individual (peer tutor) help with pronunciation, grammar, writing, vocabulary, reading comprehension, and conversation skills. English 101 may be taken for credit or non credit. English 108 (orientation and verbal communication) and English 109 (writing) are classroom setting courses offered through the Academic Learning Department for ESL students who have been accepted to BYU-Idaho. 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, résumés 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 - 6:30 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](http://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 is designed to assist students in improving their study skills. Students may obtain help either by enrolling in a class online or by enrolling in a module by visiting the Center in MCK 282 or online.

Two classes are offered:

- **College Success**– which is designed to help students explore learning strategies, discover their own particular learning style, and help develop a more positive attitude toward education.
- **Study Skills Class**– helps students improve learning effectiveness, attitude and motivation, time management, studying textbooks, study habits, memory, concentration, etc. This course also orients students to available university services and resources. This course is a one-credit block class (8 weeks).

Study Skills Modules:

Students may enroll in any study skills module listed below by registering at the Study Skills Center or online. Modules may be taken for credit (.5 each) or on a non-credit basis; however, modules must be added by the 12th week of the semester, and each module may be registered for only once each semester. The following modules are offered:

- Concentration and Memorization
- Note Taking & Listening
- Thinking Skills
- Textbook Study
- Time Management
- Test Taking Skills
- Studying Chemistry

For more information on these modules, see the course descriptions below.

One-on-one counseling is also available to help students develop more effective personal study strategies.

## Services For Students with a Disability (SSD)

Following admission guidelines, BYU-Idaho is committed to the full inclusion of all otherwise-qualified individuals who can benefit from its educational programs and activities. The Office of Services for Students with a Disability (SSD), located in McKay Library, East 158, assists in facilitating reasonable academic accommodations for all qualified students who have documented learning, emotional, and/or physical disabilities (as defined by applicable disability law) and have need for reasonable accommodation. Elevator access is provided.

### ENG 101 Reading Assistance and Textbook Comprehension (0.5-2:2:0)

Emphasizes skills for textbook study and comprehension. Students may register for .5 - 1.0 credit. This class may be repeated for a maximum of 6.0 credits. (Individual tutoring available) (Fall, Winter, Summer)

### ENG 106 Basic Writing (3:3:1)

Emphasizes basic writing conventions: effective sentences, paragraphs, and short essays. Recommended for individuals with an ACT English score of 17 or below. (Fall, Winter, Summer)

### ENG 107 College Reading (3:3:5)

Develops reading skills for improved textbook comprehension in the arts and sciences. (Fall, Winter, Summer)

### ENG 108 English Language Development (ELD) - Oral (3:3:1)

Focuses on the improvement of English skills for non-native speakers. Emphasizes oral communication. (Fall, Winter, Summer)

### ENG 109 English Language Development (ELD)- Writing (3:3:1)

Prerequisite: International student whose primary language is not English. Focuses on the improvement of English skills for non-native speakers. Emphasizes written communication. Prepares students for English 111. (Fall, Winter, Summer)

### MATH 100A Arithmetic (1:3:2)

A study of arithmetic and applications using arithmetic. This course is only for those needing a review of elementary school arithmetic including signed numbers, fractions, decimals, and percents. (Fall, Winter, Summer)

### MATH 100B Beginning Algebra (2:3:2)

The arithmetic of integers and rational numbers as well as an introduction to algebra. This course is recommended for those needing basic algebra before taking progressively higher math courses. (Fall, Winter, Summer)

### MATH 101 Intermediate Algebra (3:3:2)

Prerequisite: Ability to demonstrate proficiency in first-year algebra or Math 100B with a grade of "B" or higher. Fundamental operations of algebra, properties of exponents, solving linear, fractional, radical and quadratic equations, graphing linear and quadratic functions. Math 101 may not be taken for credit if Math 110 has been completed with a grade of "B" or higher. (Fall, Winter, Summer)

### GS 102 Study Skills (2:2:0)

This class is designed to help students improve their learning effectiveness, attitudes and motivation. Time management, memorization methods, note taking skills, textbook study methods, test taking strategies, and critical thinking are all part of the curriculum. It also provides an orientation to services and resources available to students on campus. (Fall, Winter, Summer)

### GS 103A Concentration and Memorization (5:0:0)

This is an online, self-directed learning experience where students are taught how to be an effective listener and are then taught how to decrease distractions, and how to recognize lecture organizational patterns. Different note taking formats are also introduced. The students will apply these note taking methods to their present classes. (Fall, Winter, Summer)

### GS 103B Note Taking and Listening (5:0:0)

This is an online, self-directed learning experience where students will learn methods of improving their concentration. This is done by students evaluating their plans of study and teaching helpful strategies. Various memorization methods are also taught which the students will then apply to their class work. (Fall, Winter, Summer)

- GS 103C Thinking Skills** (5:0:0)  
This is an online, self-directed learning experience wherein analytical reasoning skills are applied to problems, i.e.: verbal reasoning, analogies, trends and patterns, and mathematical word problems. The application of these skills is determined by the needs of the student at various times in their lives.  
(Fall, Winter, Summer)
- GS 103D Text Book Study Methods** (5:0:0)  
This is an online, self-directed learning experience wherein students are taught how to analyze their text books and study them more effectively. The SQ3R (Survey, Question, Read, Recite, Review) method of studying text book will be taught. The students will then have the opportunity to tryout this method in one of their own classes.  
(Fall, Winter, Summer)
- GS 103E Time Management** (5:0:0)  
This is an online, self directed learning experience where the students are taught the importance of effective time management. The students will discover how to set short-term and long-term goals. They will be taught how to manage their time by making semester, weekly, and daily charts and schedules wherein priorities are set and carried out.  
(Fall, Winter, Summer)
- GS 103F Test Taking Skills** (5:0:0)  
This is an online, self-directed learning experience where the students learn what their own learning style is and are taught different methods of preparing for tests according to these styles. They will also be taught various test taking hints for multiple choice, true/false, and essay type tests. A four-day test preparation method will be taught and applied to exams in their own classes.  
(Fall, Winter, Summer)
- GS 103J Studying Chemistry** (5:0:0)  
Students will learn strategies for studying chemistry in this online module. Among the topics covered will be: how to prepare for tests, taking effective notes, retaining information read in their text books, and solving generic chemistry problems.  
(Fall, Winter, Summer)
- GS 105 College Success** (2:2:0)  
This class is designed to help students explore learning strategies, discover their own particular learning style, and help develop a more positive attitude toward education. It is designed to be an experiential-type class.  
(Fall, Winter, Summer)
- GS 108A Tutor Training-General** (1-3:1:0)  
Tutor training to meet student needs and national certification. Training in establishing rapport, assessing needs, teaching study habits, helping students accept responsibility.  
(Fall, Winter, Summer)
- GS 108B Tutor Training-Reading** (1-3:1:0)  
Tutor training to meet student needs and national certification. Training in establishing rapport, assessing needs, teaching study habits, helping students accept responsibility.  
(Fall, Winter, Summer)
- GS 108C Tutor Training-Writing** (1-3:1:0)  
Tutor training to meet student needs and national certification. Training in establishing rapport, assessing needs, teaching study habits, helping students accept responsibility.  
(Fall, Winter, Summer)
- GS 108D Tutor Training-Math** (1-3:1:0)  
Tutor training to meet student needs and national certification. Training in establishing rapport, assessing needs, teaching study habits, helping students accept responsibility.  
(Fall, Winter, Summer)