Advancing Students. Enhancing Learning.

Message from the Director

How is your semester going? Are you looking for new strategies or tips? We have a variety of ways to explore learning strategies. We have general and science specific workshops, with some sessions available remotely using WebEx. There are many online resources on our website and additional materials for you. Academic coaching is also available by request.

Have you visited your professor during office hours? Your professors are your primary resources and office hours are tremendous opportunities to get to know your faculty members. Take some time to develop questions about the course material and stop in for a visit.

We are excited to be a part of your Towson University experience this semester as you work to achieve your academic goals. Our main office, Cook Library 524, has extended hours during tutoring. From February 6th–May 8th, we are open from 8 AM-7PM Monday-Thursday and 8 AM-5PM on Friday. Tutoring is not offered during Spring Break, March 20th – 24th.

This semester we are expanding our Supplemental Instruction (SI) pilot to include most sections of BIOL 190 and 221 and adding a couple of sections of CHEM 132 sections. SI targets historically challenging courses, offering weekly group study sessions facilitated by a peer leader. Leaders attend the course and facilitate weekly sessions.

Peer-assisted learning sessions are led by experienced peer tutors. Sessions are typically held weekly, or on a series of scheduled dates throughout the semester. The tutor engages students on difficult topics that are being covered in the course. This semester, we have PAL sessions for ACCT201, CHEM121, 131, 132, 331 and 332, ECON201, FIN331, and MATH 211/273.

A few of our tutoring locations have been updated. The Spence mathematics location has moved from room 105 to room 109 in the YR7800 building. This has significantly increased the space available. Our science location in Smith 538 now has cubbies for storing backpacks, new moveable tables and a different layout. Finally our music location has moved from 4037L to room 2087. This has more than doubled the size and includes a staff-lined dry erase board. Special thanks go to Dr. Michael O’Leary, Facilities Management, Dr. Eileen Hayes, and Dean David Vanko.

Finally, make sure to find time for yourself. Planning your study schedule can help you stay ahead of the game and give you the freedom to identify flexible time for enjoyment.

Liz Scarbrough, Director

Special points of interest:

- **Workshops**: Provided throughout the semester to help develop skills vital to enhancing academic performance.
- **Academic Coaching**: Learning Specialists are ready to meet with students individually to determine learning strengths and improve techniques.
- **Tutoring**: Free small group or drop-in peer tutoring sessions, based upon the availability of a qualified tutor.

This semester, we are offering SI sessions in Biology (190 & 221) and Chemistry (132). You can find the complete schedule of spring SI meetings at: https://www.towson.edu/aac/services/documents/spring-2017-si-schedule.pdf
Test Your Test-Taking Skills!

1. Which of the following is the most effective way to remember information?
   A. Skim over readings before the test
   B. Read a new vocabulary word twice
   C. Create flash cards and quiz yourself

2. How should you review for an essay-style test?
   A. Review relationships between the biggest concepts in class
   B. Memorize important dates and definitions

3. When should you state your main idea in an essay?
   A. In the introduction paragraph
   B. In the conclusion paragraph
   C. In both the introduction and conclusion paragraphs

4. Which of the following suggestions is least helpful for students with test anxiety?
   A. “Don’t let yourself worry at all during the test.”
   B. “Try to eat a snack before your test.”
   C. “Sit somewhere familiar when you take the test.”
   D. “Show up to your test 15 minutes early.”

5. In a multiple choice test, which answer choice is most likely to be correct?
   A. Workshops are always informative.
   B. Workshops can be informative.
   C. Workshops are never informative.
   D. None of the above.

How did you do? If you didn’t know every answer, don’t worry! The Academic Achievement Center is offering Test Taking Strategies Workshops on March 6th, 7th, and 8th, during which we will go over all sorts of tips on how to improve your Test Taking skills. Hope to see you there!

Answer Key:
## Spring Study Skills Workshop Schedule:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Workshop</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Workshop</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Workshop</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>February 6</td>
<td>Succeeding as a Transfer Student</td>
<td>February 7</td>
<td>Succeeding as a Transfer Student</td>
<td>February 8</td>
<td>WebEx*</td>
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<td>February 13</td>
<td>10 Ways to Ace Your College Experience</td>
<td>February 14</td>
<td>10 Ways to Ace Your College Experience</td>
<td>February 15</td>
<td>10 Ways to Ace Your College Experience</td>
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<td>February 20</td>
<td>Active Reading Strategies</td>
<td>February 21</td>
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<td>February 22</td>
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<td>March 1</td>
<td>Self-Care and Time Management</td>
<td>March 14</td>
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<td>March 15</td>
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<td>March 15</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 27</td>
<td>Creating Awesome Presentations</td>
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<td>April 3</td>
<td>Study Smarter, Not Harder</td>
<td>April 4</td>
<td>Study Smarter, Not Harder</td>
<td>April 5</td>
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<td>April 10</td>
<td>The Art of Remembering Information</td>
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<td>April 17</td>
<td>Group Project Do’s and Don’ts</td>
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<td>April 24</td>
<td>Manage Your Stress for Success</td>
<td>April 4</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 1</td>
<td>Preparing For Finals</td>
<td>April 4</td>
<td>Preparing For Finals</td>
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<td>May 2</td>
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## Spring Science Workshop Schedule:

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Workshop</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Study Strategies for Students in Science Courses</td>
<td>February 9</td>
<td>Smith 203</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>How to Succeed in Biology (without really trying)</td>
<td>February 16</td>
<td>Smith 203</td>
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<tr>
<td>(x^2+y^2=\text{science}^2)</td>
<td>February 23</td>
<td>Smith 203</td>
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<tr>
<td>Understanding Significant Figures</td>
<td>March 2</td>
<td>Smith 203</td>
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<tr>
<td>Problem Solving and Conversions</td>
<td>March 9</td>
<td>Smith 203</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Writing Lab Reports</td>
<td>March 16</td>
<td>Smith 203</td>
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<tr>
<td>Excelling Your Way to Excellence</td>
<td>April 6</td>
<td>Smith 203</td>
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<tr>
<td>&quot;Calculate&quot; the Solutions for Success</td>
<td>April 20</td>
<td>Smith 203</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Significant Figures and Conversions Review</td>
<td>April 27</td>
<td>Smith 203</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science Finals</td>
<td>May 4</td>
<td>Smith 203</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science Study Skills Q &amp; A</td>
<td>May 11</td>
<td>Smith 203</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Busy Schedule? Try attending our new online workshops!**

Click here for links to online workshops, or visit our website and click on Services, then Workshops.

“It always seems impossible until it is done.” - Nelson Mandela
Our Talented Tutors

This semester the Academic Achievement Center has 45 trained tutors. Our tutor training program is certified through the College Reading and Learning Association. Tutors are required to participate in training each semester. Certification levels are achieved through completing training and experience as a tutor. Congratulations to our tutors who have recently reached a new level.

Level 1
Allison Guerra
Joyce Lee
Rachel Monias
Breonna Rogers
Anna Cammayo
Emily Chong

Level 2
Stacy Davis
Will Gum
Aren Boghosian
Paige Sudol
Tyler Swanson

Level 3
Christine Qabar
Ijeoma Obizoba
Samantha Rangos

Level 1: Tabatha Beck and Kimberly Graham
Level 3: Liz Scarbrough

Congratulations to our full-time staff for advancing in NCLCA Learning Center Leadership Certification!

Tutoring Locations:
Business & Liberal Arts Tutoring - Cook Library Room 524
Computer Science Tutoring - 7800 York Road Room 407
Music Tutoring - Center for the Arts Room 4037L
Natural Science Tutoring - Smith Hall Room 538
(Biology/Chemistry/Physics/Physical Science)
**Spence Mathematics Tutoring - 7800 York Road Room 109
**Spence Math Tutoring has moved locations!

The Academic Achievement Center (AAC) is a full-service learning center that provides student support services of academic improvement and study skills development. Our mission is to help Towson University students become independent learners through tutorial and diagnostic assistance and promote integrity in the educational environment. We are a comprehensive resource with smart-board technology, peer tutors and learning specialists that can equip students to earn better grades and reach their academic goals.