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JMU Learning Centers: Cross-disciplinary Student Support
by Kurt Schick, Learning Centers Director

The Learning Centers provide free tutoring, workshops, and online supplements to support student learning across disciplines. We are located on the first floor of the Student Success Center and typically open from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. M-Th, Friday mornings, and Sunday afternoons.

Here are some distinguishing features of our centers:

- Our services are free and confidential. Faculty do not know which students use our services unless students tell them.

- We offer a comfortable, non-evaluative learning environment. This is a space to make mistakes, ask "dumb" questions, and gain confidence among faculty and peer educators who care deeply about students.

- We focus on learning, rather than grades. We’re experts in explaining difficult concepts, but we hold students responsible for doing their part. Students can expect to work hard during consultations, rather than having us do the work for them.
• We employ 18 faculty members and over 100 peer educators. Students can seek support from faculty who are disciplinary experts or from well-trained peers.

• Our services benefit everyone. We don't consider tutoring to be remedial, but something for all students who want to learn more effectively.

• We're always looking for tutors. We provide excellent training and mentorship and reasonable pay.

• The main thing to stress to students: Come early and often. Occasional use has some benefits, but regular use of our services brings the most significant, lasting results.

Here is a quick breakdown of our services for students:

**Communication Center**
Helps students with public speaking, class presentations, advocacy, debate, interviewing, information seeking/library research, and presentational software. We offer individual and group tutoring (walk-in and by appointment) and various workshops. [READ MORE](#)

**Digital Communication Consulting (DigiComm)**
Provides tutoring for online portfolios, digital storytelling assignments, and course WordPress assignments. We also offer workshops on choosing the right web builder, personal branding, content creation tools, and usability testing. [READ MORE](#)

**English Language Learner Services (ELLS)**
Helps non-native English speakers improve their skills with reading, writing, speaking, and listening. We offer one-on-one tutoring by appointment, plus other skill-building programs such as English Conversation Club, Multilingual Writers Community, and Grammar Hour. [READ MORE](#)

**Science and Math Learning Center (SMLC)**
Provides walk-in tutoring for introductory chemistry, physics, math, and statistics courses. The SMLC is a great place to study, with plenty of room and computers for online homework. We also offer podcasts and video tutorials on our website.
**Peer-Assisted Study Sessions (PASS)**
Supports selected historically challenging courses in biology, chemistry, math, economics, and business. PASS offers evening study sessions for reviewing and practicing course content. The sessions are held twice a week for 50 minutes outside of normal class time, and usually scheduled between 4:00 and 9:30 p.m. Sunday through Thursday in various buildings across campus.

**University Writing Center (UWC)**
Supports any kind of writing, in any subject, during any stage of the writing process. The UWC provides appointment-based tutoring, walk-in tutoring, and online tutoring to individuals and small groups.

**Academic Probation and Suspension... What Advisors Need to Know**

*Did you know that upward of 700 students will have been placed on academic probation in December? As an advisor, do you feel equipped to work effectively with these students? This article is dedicated to making sure you have the information needed to assist students facing academic probation or suspension.*

**Learning Strategies Instruction Improves Students' Academic Performance**

Learning Strategies Instruction (LSI), a free service available to all JMU students, is designed to improve student learning and academic performance. Although the program is located in the Office of Disability Services, 68% if student users are...
not registered with Disability Services. This article provides informat
share with students who may benefit from this individualized, studer
program. READ MORE

Office of Disability Services: Facilitating the Learning Journey

This article highlights the role the Office of
Disability Services (ODS) plays on campus and
services provided for students. READ MORE

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