The Staff of Academic Services Wishes You a Great Winter Semester!

Director’s Message

With the semester in full swing, I would like to remind you of the variety of support services available through the Office of Academic Services. In addition to offering tutoring and testing services, our main campus facility houses a quiet study area where you can drop in between classes to study, as well as reference solution manuals. We also have a computer resource room and several small group study rooms, which may be reserved on a first come, first serve basis.

One of the most beneficial resources we house is the library of math CDs, which can reinforce or clarify concepts presented in your math classes. Please feel free to stop by our main campus front desk and inquire about these additional resources.

I wish you much continued success on your journey at NSU and beyond. We are ready and eager to be of support and assistance.

Lisa Walther-Austin, Director

Rita Martínez-Puccio
Writing Tutor
Miami (Kendall) Campus

Rita has been a writing tutor at NSU for two years. She has a bachelor of arts degree in English and women’s studies and a master of fine arts degree in creative writing from Florida International University. Rita has taught basic and advanced composition and creative writing at NSU and Miami Dade College. “I let students know that I am a writer too. You have to practice what you preach,” says Rita.

Jane-in-the-Box, Rita’s first poetry collection (March Street Press, 2008), takes a figure from classic English literature, Jane Eyre, and reinvents her with tattoos, fishnets, and modern feminism.
By Noreen Groover Lape
Director of the Columbus State University Writing Center

Do essays make you feel uptight?
Do you have trouble when you write?
Perhaps you don’t know how to start or end or write the middle part?

We can chase your fears away,
and show you what you want to say.

Do thesis statements make you wince?
Does evidence not quite convince?
Is organization but a dream?
(Five paragraphs are not the only scheme.)
Do transitions fail to bridge the parts?
Is sentence structure lacking art?
We can help you pave the way . . . to understanding MLA and APA!

We can help you. We are wise.
We can teach you to fix your papers up. (I mean, revise.)
Your confidence you will recover as you learn — to write is to discover.

Come and let us be your shapers.
Better writers make better papers!

Catch Us on TV
(SharkTube, That Is)

The Office of Academic Services produced its first SharkTube infomercial. Created in the style of the silent movies of the 20th century, it is a fun way to tell about the success of those who come to us for help.

This infomercial may be turned into a series, with other episodes to follow. . . . Send us ideas about what should happen in the next installment, and your movie might end up on TV as well.

Welcome New Tutors

We welcome the new tutors who joined our family this semester.

Alyssa Baet – math/science
Brandy Benesch – math/science
Sara Stevens – math/science
Teshie Herbert – writing
Michael Berbauer – writing
Lindsay Timari – writing

Pictures and sayings of all our tutors can be found on a bulletin board within our office. Come in and meet the tutors.

Tutor Profile

Marissa Cohen
Writing Tutor
Main campus

Marissa holds a bachelor of arts degree in English from Florida Atlantic University. She is a freelance editor and has worked with several publishing houses. She is a published author and is a member of the National League of American Pen Women (NLAPW). In 2003, she was the recipient of NLAPW’s Letters Honorarium. Currently, Marissa is working on a graphic novel inspired by her personal experiences with cancer. Marissa has worked at Florida Atlantic University and Broward College. She has been a writing tutor in the Office of Academic Services since 2004 and enjoys working in such a warm, fun, and welcoming environment. Marissa loves tutoring because of the immediate connection that is created between a student and a tutor. Marissa lives in South Florida with her beagle and vast collection of books.

Writing Center Poem

Faculty Corner

Would you like a workshop on APA or MLA writing format brought to your classroom? Would you like us to come and tell your students about the services available at the Office of Academic Services?

To request a workshop or a brief informational sessions, please submit a request form on our Web site: www.undergrad.nova.edu/academicservices

Topics can be adjusted to meet your specific needs.
Student Testimonials

I am so thankful for my writing tutor. My score went up an entire grade!!! It is a great feeling to know there are free tutors always willing to help.

Luly Montero,
Elementary Education, Miami

My chemistry tutor helped me figure information that I didn’t even know I didn’t understand.

Keisha Francis,
Biology, Main Campus

Working with the people at Academic Services has been a great experience. Every tutor is willing to sit down and patiently explain the subject. I would strongly advise any student to seek assistance at their office.

Psychology Student,
Main Campus

Save Money Through CLEP

CLEP exams allow students to earn college credit at a fraction of the cost of tuition. They may be taken before students earn 24 credits at NSU. CLEP exams are available in a variety of subject areas and take only 90 minutes on the computer.

In order to take the exam, you must first meet with your advisor to determine what exam is appropriate to your program. Once this is done, call our office at (954) 262-8374 to schedule an appointment for the exam. CLEP exams are given Monday through Friday at 9:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m., and 1:00 p.m.

New Service - Success Coaching

If you have ever worked with a personal trainer in the gym, you know how helpful that one-on-one support can be. The Office of Academic Services now offers such support through success coaching, which is targeted at helping you make a successful transition to college life.

Whether or not this is your first semester, a success coach will be your source of support, inspiration, and information to make sure that you are getting the most out of your college career.

Some of the topics covered in coaching are general organization, time management, best study practices, grade awareness, and so on. An individual plan is developed for each student to address his or her specific needs.

Request it for yourself or refer a friend. Success is waiting for you!

Tutors Needed

The Office of Academic Services is looking for tutors in physics, organic chemistry, and statistics II.

If you want to become a peer tutor (math, science, or business), you must have

- A minimum of 30 earned credits
- An overall GPA of 3.4 or higher
- A “B+” or higher in any course to be tutored

To apply, go to www.undergrad.nova.edu/academicservices, fill out an application, and drop it off at our office (Parker, 100).