

Tutor Profile



Kodi Stevens
Math Tutor
Main Campus

Kodi has tutored math and science for almost two years. She enjoys her position working with students of all educational levels and especially loves that defining moment when she knows a student has crossed over the divide into understanding.

Kodi will graduate this year with a degree in biology and a minor in mathematics. Throughout the program, she has been a Dean's List Scholar and was awarded the honor of the Presidential Scholarship upon admission.

She hopes to continue her studies in the Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine degree program at NSU and fulfill her dream of becoming a physician. Kodi enjoys spending time with her family, cooking, and of course, studying.

Reading That Works

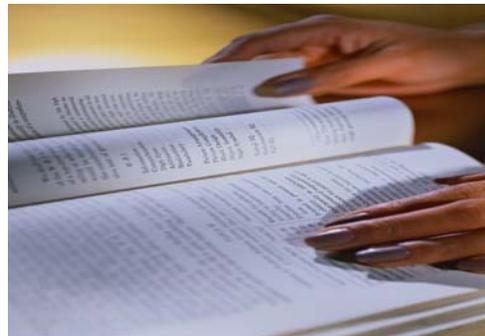
College homework is all about reading thick textbooks with long chapters. How many times have you come to the end of a chapter only to feel that you can't remember a thing, or had to reread the same paragraph multiple times because the words on the page did not make sense?

A variety of strategies exist to help students become more comfortable with reading and to raise their level of comprehension. Here is just one example. Break your reading into very small chunks (paragraph, section, etc.). Stop after every meaningful chunk and "teach" what you just read to an "invisible friend." If your teaching goes smoothly, it means you really understood what your read. If not, go back and reread.

Director's Message

Happy New Year and welcome to the winter 2011 semester!

The Office of Academic Services in the Farquhar College of Arts and Sciences is committed to your success, and we want you to be aware of and utilize every academic support tool at your disposal. With over 2,500 tutoring appointments delivered during the fall 2010 semester (a 16% increase over appointments delivered the previous fall semester), demand for tutoring services is growing. Students are reporting that tutoring services not only assist with the immediate goal of better grades, but also help them maintain the overall academic competitive edge required for entry into graduate and professional programs. Other key



Another technique is using a color overlay (colorful transparency). This helps people who have difficulty processing words on a page. Try different colors and see which one works for you. Color overlays are known to reduce perception distortions thus making it easier to read.

If you would like to explore this in more depth and find techniques that work for you, ask us about success coaching.

services provided by our office, such as testing, supplemental instruction, and success coaching, support students, as well.

In order to continue to assess our efforts going forward, I encourage you to provide us with your feedback, which is collected in the form of various surveys administered within the office and online. Please take a moment to let us know how we are doing.

Please stop by and say hello and best wishes for a great year ahead!

Lisa Walther-Austin, Director

Tutor Profile



Trinidad Samaniego
Math Tutor
Miami SEC

Trinidad has been tutoring math at NSU for the past five years and is currently also a math faculty member at Miami Dade College, where she has been teaching for eight years. She has received numerous positive reviews from her students for her teaching approach.

Trinidad loves math and loves sharing it with others. She enjoys helping students improve their math skills, which they can use in their lives. The best moments in her years of teaching and tutoring mathematics are when "light bulbs" go on and students exclaim Aha! She then realizes she has made a contribution to society.

Trinidad graduated with a bachelor's degree in chemical engineering and a minor in physics from the National University of Trujillo, Peru. She originally ran the Quality Control division for Pepsi Cola in Chiclayo, Peru. She loves interior design and architecture and enjoys traveling.

A December to Remember



December is a month for celebrating the holidays, giving of one's self, and enjoying each other's company. The staff of the Office of Academic Services did all three.

As part of the ARC Broward Angel Tree community project, the staff purchased and wrapped Christmas gifts for Abi, a three-year-old toddler with developmental delays. For the first time in her life, Abi opened dozens of presents filled with colorful toys and clothes.

Testing news

Testing services has implemented a new survey to help us assess how we are doing. Please remember to leave us feedback when you are in the office.

Testing Basics

Dear Student:

To ensure you have the best testing experience possible, please review the following guidelines.

- ✓ Schedule your appointments at least 24 hours prior to your test date.
- ✓ After scheduling your appointment, email your instructor the time and date of your appointment.
- ✓ If taking a challenge and/or placement exam, the Testing Department must have an exam request form from your academic advisor. Please note the forms are only valid for two weeks.
- ✓ Student with documented disabilities should contact the Office of Student Disability Services prior to scheduling a testing appointment.
- ✓ Be sure to have your N#, NSU email address, and valid photo ID handy when you come in for an appointment.
- ✓ Please note all testing rooms are monitored via security cameras.



Contact Us

Main Campus

Parker Building,
Room 100

Monday–Thursday
8:30 a.m.–7:00 p.m.

Friday
8:30 a.m.–5:00 p.m.

Saturday
10:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m.

(Hours subject to change)

Front Desk

(954) 262-8350

Testing

(954) 262-8374

Lisa Walther-Austin,
Director

(954) 262-7919

Gail Levine,
Assistant Director

(954) 262-8354

Cortney Palmacci,
Coordinator

Main Campus Tutoring
(954) 262-7902

Natalie Candela,
Coordinator

Off-Campus Tutoring
(954) 262-8356

Armante Labady,
Coordinator Testing

(954) 262-8373

Student Educational Centers

For appointments, call
800-757-7257,
ext. 28350

Tutoring hours vary.

Faculty Onboard for Tutor Training

The Office of Academic Services (OAS) offers ongoing professional development to all of its tutors. Some of the training topics are dictated by the College Reading and Learning Association, which certifies the office. Other topics are identified by the coordinators based on everyday experience. This fall, OAS and faculty members joined forces to provide tutors with quality training.

Math and science tutors attended a faculty panel with Maria Ballester, Ph.D., and Jeremy Perotti, Ph.D., from the college's Division of Math, Science, and Technology. The panel focused on tutoring challenges within chemistry.

Writing tutors attended a session with Claire Lutkewitte, M.A., assistant professor in the college's Division of Humanities. Lutkewitte addressed curriculum and assignment requirements within the three basic composition classes offered by the college.

Additional training sessions with faculty participation are being planned for the winter semester.

"It always seems strange that in our endless discussions about education so little stress is laid on the pleasure of becoming an educated person, the enormous interest it adds to life. To be able to be caught up into the world of thought—that is to be educated."

—Edith Hamilton

You Rock, Super Star

During the fall semester, the Office of Academic Services began a new initiative aimed at recognizing the most outstanding contribution of our full-time and tutoring staff. Full-time staff members can receive a Super Star award, and tutors can receive a You Rock award for going above and beyond their call of duty. Nominations for both awards can be submitted by anyone within the office. The awards are presented monthly.

Several awards have already been presented:

November 2010

Super Star recipient:
Cortney Palmacci,
Tutoring Coordinator (for
marathon tutoring during a
shortage of tutors)

December 2010

You Rock recipient:
Mindy Blum, writing tutor (for her
patience and caring while
working with a student requiring
a little extra support)

Super Star recipient:
Natalie Candela,
Tutoring Coordinator (for helping
students beyond her work
hours)

Tutors Needed

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

- Minimum of 30 earned credits
- Overall GPA of 3.4 or higher
- "B+" or higher in any course to be tutored

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