



Tutor Profile

Devin Echevarria

While still a high school senior, Devin Echevarria decided he wanted to teach English. Though this decision was made on a whim, his education and career have always led him to opportunities in the field of English. Echevarria's most recent excursion brought him to Daegu, South Korea, where he taught conversational English to eager high school students for the better part of 2011. These experiences in native and foreign educational institutes have cemented his resolve to work with students as passionate about writing as he is. Now he finds himself at NSU, where his goal is to be refined as a tutor through the student's determination to improve.

Echevarria is an avid (sometimes competitive) cyclist. When not out logging miles on his bike, he writes and records music and immerses himself in literature. He is an experienced traveler who's always looking for his next destination.

Director's Message

Welcome to the fall 2012 semester!

The Office of Academic Services (OAS) is committed to your success, and we want you to make this semester your best yet. As part of this effort, I invite you to peruse this newsletter and find out about the variety of academic support resources and services we are proud to deliver.

I am pleased to announce new test preparation services designed to help you prepare for the next steps after graduation. We are expanding the *EyeQ* software program, which allows you to work on increasing reading speed and comprehension in preparation for standardized exams. We are also offering discounted opportunities to take MCAT practice tests that allow students to experience test conditions in a mock scenario while benefiting from targeted study materials.

In order to continue to assess our efforts going forward, please provide us with your feedback. There are various survey instruments within the office, and I encourage you to take a moment to let us know how we are doing.

We are eager to be of service to you. Best wishes for a great year ahead!

Lisa Walther-Austin
Director, Office of Academic Services



Fifth Annual Tutor Recognition Ceremony



On April 11, 2011, OAS came together to recognize NSU tutors for their hard work, valuable contributions to the office, and achievements throughout the 2010–2011 academic year. Tutors were addressed by Don Rosenblum, Ph.D., dean of Farquhar College of Arts and Sciences; Melanie Campbell, a graduating tutor; and Alyssa Baet, an alumni tutor now a graduate

pharmacy student. In addition to the OAS staff, the ceremony was attended by faculty and administrators of the college. At the end of the ceremony, the tutors were gifted with candles or flashlights, symbolizing our message of lighting the way for education and learning.



Tutor Profile

Tara Farquhar

Tara Farquhar graduated from Lamar University in Beaumont, Texas with an M.A. in English in 2010. She has worked as a news writer for four years, a high-school English teacher for five years, and an English tutor and college-level English instructor for three. While she loves writing and teaching, she admits that tutoring students is her particular favorite because it allows her the opportunity to work one-on-one with students and to see them grow academically and as individuals. Additionally, Farquhar is looking forward to becoming certified in Teaching English as a Second Language and hopes one day to use her certification to teach English as a language to students both in the United States and abroad.

Whenever Farquhar is not working, she enjoys reading, doing yoga (which she is also certified to teach), traveling, taking pictures with her Nikon, hanging out with her three cats (Mars, Ginsu, and Munchkin) and her husband, Clint. As a new addition to the NSU tutoring staff, she is excited and honored to work with new coworkers and students who value self-improvement and education.

New Tutors for OAS

At the end of each school year, we often say goodbye to some of our tutors as they graduate and move on in their academic careers. Although their departure is sad, it also allows us to welcome new tutors.

For math and science tutoring, we welcome Mega Margapuram and Steffani Tiomno.

Margapuram is a biology major starting her second year at NSU. She loves the fields of anatomy and physiology and plans to attend dental school after graduation. When she isn't studying or tutoring, Margapuram enjoys volunteer work and drawing.

Tiomno is also a biology major starting her second year at NSU. A local student, she plans to attend optometry school after graduation and eventually open her own practice. She enjoys yoga in her free time.

Additionally, we have two new professional writing tutors joining the office. Devin Echevarria and Tara Farquhar both come to us with experience in teaching and tutoring at other schools.

Additionally, Sasha Stelitz also joined the OAS staff as a peer writing tutor last winter. She is a senior English major, currently making decisions on graduate school.



Courtney Palmacci, Robert Miyares
Tutoring Coordinators

Hilary Malave: OAS Administrative Assistant

Hilary Malave joined the OAS team after graduating with her B.S. in Supervision and Management from Broward College in August 2012. While attending BC, Malave held a number of student employment jobs, including her most recent position as senior student ambassador. In addition to her on-campus jobs, she served in the Latin American Student Association as treasurer; was a senator for the Student Government Association; spent a semester in Seville, Spain, participating in a study abroad program; and was recognized by Second Lady Jill Biden at their commencement ceremony this past summer.

Malave plans to take some time off school to work and decide where her educational career will take her next. In her spare time, she enjoys reading, watching movies, and socializing with friends.



Hilary Malave, administrative assistant,
joined OAS in August 2012



Contact Us

Main Campus

Parker Building, Suite 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.
These hours are 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

Robert Miyares,
Coordinator

Off-Campus Tutoring
(954) 262-8356

Pat Krauss,
Coordinator Testing

(954) 262-8373

Student Educational Centers

Tutoring hours vary. For appointments, call 800-757-7257, ext. 28350

Testing Basics

Testing Services continues to be a test administration site for CLEP, DSST, and NYU Foreign Language Proficiency exams. Students must contact their academic advisor before making appointments to take any exam and then contact Testing Services for specific dates or appointments. Students can also contact the Office of Student Disability Services for more information on individualized accommodations for students with documented disabilities.

Testing Reminders

We hope your efforts to stay on track and keep up with the rigors of college-level study are effective. However, if there are topics that you are struggling with in your attempt to reach this goal, please stop by the Office of Academic Services and see what we have to offer—You may be surprised.

Tutoring centers come in many shapes and forms. Some have a multitude of resources—such as computer labs, study rooms, textbook resources, and satellite locations.

But the goal for all remains the same:
Assist students to become active and independent learners!



Tutors Needed

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

- minimum of 30 earned credits
- overall GPA of 3.4 or higher
- “B+” or higher in courses you want to tutor

To apply, visit

www.fcas.nova.edu/services/academic_services/index.cfm,

fill out an application, and drop it off at the OAS office: Parker Building, Suite 100.

Testing Services News

Coming this October 6, we will be hosting our second LSAT entrance exam at NSU’s Shepard Broad Law Center.

Testing Services is also hosting the LSAT on February 9, 2013. If you are planning to attend law school in the near future, keep this testing location in mind. Prior registration required.

A Mock MCAT will be held in the Parker Building on November 10 in one of the new smart classrooms on the first floor. There are plans to have this mock test as a regular fall offering. The discounted institutional rate is passed on to students and participants get an entire year of access to the AAMC Web site to assist in your preparation for the real MCAT.

Testing Services also houses the Lending Library. There are several graduate-level exam preparation books available for both in-house and two-week loans. There are MCAT and LSAT flashcards you can use within the office, as well as several other study guides for PCAT, OAT, DAT, and the GRE.



Pat Krauss, Testing Coordinator