

NEWSLETTER

NSU's Tutoring and Testing Center

Volume 12, Winter 2014

TUTOR PROFILE



Shivani Patel

Shivani, originally from Tampa, is a Biology major, Psychology minor, and Spanish minor in the Farquhar College of Arts and Sciences. Shivani will be graduating in the class of 2015. Shivani is in the dual admissions program for Nova's College of Medicine for Osteopathic Medicine.

Shivani has been with the Testing and Tutoring Center for about a year. She works in the office as a Math/Science tutor and in the dorms as a Residence Hall tutor. Shivani feels accomplished as a tutor when she helps a student truly understand the material, especially when they are able to explain it without her assistance.

As well as being a tutor at NSU, Shivani is a Lab Assistant for the Physics department, Secretary of the Society of Physics Students, and a member of Pre-Soma and Rotaract. Shivani enjoys spending time at home with her family and playing her flute in her free time.

Director's Message

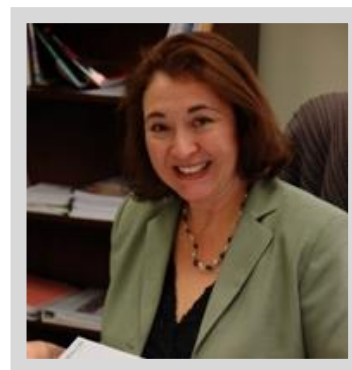
Welcome to the Winter 2014 semester!

The Tutoring and Testing Center (TTC) 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 excited to announce some changes that affect the Tutoring and Testing Center *effective immediately*.

As some of you may know, the main campus office has relocated to the SA (Student Affairs) building, 2nd floor. Along with this new location, the Tutoring and Testing Center is now housed under the College of Undergraduate Studies. This new college, under the leadership of Dr. Brad Williams, was

created to provide undergraduate students with the best level of service in support of their success at NSU.

Lisa Walther-Austin
Director, Tutoring and Testing Center



CRLA

Thanks to the efforts of Cortney Palmacci, Assistant Director of Tutoring, the Tutoring and Testing Center is proud to announce that, as of Fall 2013, our entire tutoring staff has been fully certified by the College Reading and Learning Association. Each member now holds Level 1 Certification at the minimum. The CRLA guidelines help our administrative staff work collaboratively with faculty in preparing training and other exercises for our tutors. These trainings ensure that tutors are not only experts in their specific subjects, but also in the process of tutoring. Some of these trainings include Working with ESL students, diverse student populations, and communicating effectively to multiple learning styles.



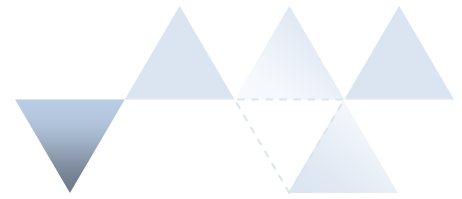
TUTOR PROFILE



Ashley Irizarry is a new writing tutor at NSU's Tutoring and Testing Center. She graduated from The College of William and Mary with a M.A. in Comparative and Transnational History in 2013. Ashley has worked as an archival assistant at Swem Library's Special Collections Research Center and interned at the Fort Lauderdale History Center. She has also worked as a writing tutor at Florida Atlantic University.

For Ashley, tutoring is a rewarding experience that gives her the opportunity to share her own writing tips and strategies with students. Writing can be very intimidating for students; Ashley's tutoring method focuses on demystifying the writing process so that students can improve their skills and become confident writers.

Outside of work, Ashley volunteers at the Fort Lauderdale Museum of Art and paints. She also enjoys reading science fiction and writing short stories.



Testing Services Seeks Certification

Preparations are underway to make NSU's Testing Services a Certified Testing Center with the National College Testing Association (NCTA) this year. Our hope is that we will complete the process of becoming a certified center by the end of 2014 and some of the benefits this certification will offer NSU and our students include guidelines for professional testing services that reflect positively on the institution, the enhancement of NSU's stature and visibility in the community, the increase of enrollment by providing quality testing services to potential students, as well as enhancing the NSU's 2020 mission to become ONE NSU.

Testing Services continues to administer the Law School Admissions Test (LSAT) in February and October every year and we want to make sure all NSU students who are interested sign up to take the LSAT right here on campus. Make sure you look for the Nova Southeastern University listing on the Law School Administration Councils web site if you want to take your LSAT here at NSU in either of those months.

TTC Open House

October 2nd saw the first open house in the TTC's new location and we are proud to say it was a great success. Faculty, staff, and students all came by to see our new facilities in the Student Affairs building. Each hallway was well attended by a TTC professional staff member to promote our multitude of services. For example, our tutors were quick to show students and staff the individualized tutoring rooms where sessions are conducted and our testing staff was delighted to familiarize their audience with what Testing Services can offer to students in need of accommodations or make-up exams. Our staff was proud to showcase the additional resources in our center including individual study rooms, the computer lab, and the study guides we have for studying purposes. We hope to see many more new students in the upcoming Winter and Summer semesters.



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!**



*Robert Miyares,
Coordinator of
Tutoring and
Testing*

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.

Success Tips

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 Tutoring and Testing Center and see what we have to offer—You may be surprised.

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 <https://www.nova.edu/webforms/tutoring-testing/tutor-application/index.html> fill out an application, and drop it off at the TTC office: Parker Building, Suite 100.

Testing Services News

From the desk of *Pat Krauss*, Assistant Director of Testing

The Practice MCAT exam is going to open up and be offered many times throughout the winter term right here in Testing Services. Students who are interested in going to medical school are urged to be on the look for when this exam will be offered. This practice test will allow students to take one of the retired MCAT exams in a timed and regulated manner that tries to replicate the way the actual test is administered. AAMC’s institutional rate is passed on to the student (only \$20).

Stop by to see us in the Student Affairs building, you just may be surprised at what you find to assist you in your academic goals in Testing Services!



CONTACT US

MAIN CAMPUS HOURS OF OPERATION

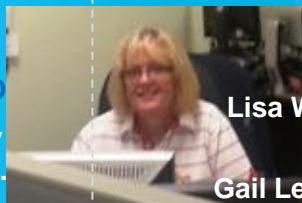
Monday – Thursday
8:30 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Friday
8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Saturday
10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

REGIONAL CAMPUSES

Tutoring hours vary.
For appointments, call
800-541-6682, ext. 28350



These hours are subject to change.

FRONT DESK
(954) 262-8350

TESTING
(954) 262-8374

Lisa Walther-Austin, Director
(954) 262-7919

Gail Levine, Associate Director
(954) 262-8354

**Cortney Palmacci,
Assistant Director of Tutoring**
(954) 262-7902

Pat Krauss, Assistant Director of Testing
(954) 262-8373

**Robert Miyares, Coordinator of
Tutoring and Testing**
(954) 262-8356