



## What is Supplemental Instruction?

Supplemental Instruction, or SI, is an academic support program designed to improve students' academic success and increase retention. The SI program targets traditionally difficult courses and provides regularly scheduled, peer-to-peer organized study sessions. These sessions are available to ALL students enrolled in the class at no cost.

## Our Mission is...

- To help students enhance learning, develop good study habits, and achieve success in introductory and historically difficult courses, where a significant percent of students receive a grade of D, F, or W
- To help students become self-sufficient and gain leadership skills
- To increase retention and graduation rates

## Why should students attend SI?

Research has demonstrated that when SI programs are offered at colleges, students' learning, test scores and grades improve. SI study sessions provide an informal atmosphere where students can explore important concepts, review class notes, discuss reading assignments, work practice problems and go over relevant study skills as a group. These study sessions are facilitated by a faculty-nominated SI Leader. You can ask any student who attends SI sessions how the group study has benefited them, or see ***Student Testimonials***.

## What makes the SI Leader qualified to facilitate SI study sessions?

SI Leaders are undergraduate students who have already successfully completed the targeted course. SI Leaders are selected based on their academic strengths as well as their communication and interpersonal skills.

SI Leaders attend lectures, take notes, and complete the readings and assignments just as enrolled students do. SI Leaders also interface regularly with faculty to discuss the concepts that should be reviewed in the weekly SI sessions. In addition, SI Leaders are responsible for facilitating weekly SI review sessions, preparing lesson plans, and attending SI training meetings.

## Origin of the Supplemental Instruction (SI) model:

SI was created by Deanna Martin, PhD, at University of Missouri-Kansas City (UMKC) in 1973 to decrease the attrition rate of students in the schools of medicine, pharmacy, and dentistry. Supplemental Instruction has been offered at the NSU-Davie campus since winter 2010. The program utilizes student leaders who have previously taken and mastered the course. The program requires support from faculty by:

- Recognizing and nominating students with SI Leader potential
- Welcoming SI Leaders to attend their class and mentoring them on class content.
- Maintaining open communication with the SI Leader and SI Director Staff throughout the semester.

## SI Leader Profile:

The SI Leader is a currently enrolled NSU student who is in good standing and

- has been nominated by the professor who teaches the target course
- has taken the target course within 1-3 semesters and excelled academically
- demonstrates leadership and has an interest and ability to work with peers in small group settings

## Who can I contact if I have more questions regarding the SI program at NSU?

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