



# SUPPLEMENTAL INSTRUCTION

## Faculty FAQ

### WHAT IS SI?

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 study habits, and achieve success in introductory and historically difficult courses, in which a significant percentage of students receive a D/F/W grade
- to help students become self-sufficient and develop leadership skills
- to increase retention and graduation rates

### HOW CAN I BEST UTILIZE SI?

- Allow SI Leaders to make a brief introduction at the beginning of the semester and announcements about SI Sessions throughout the semester
- Meet with SI Leaders regularly throughout the semester to best align SI session content with course lectures
- Encourage **ALL** students to attend SI sessions. We are available for everyone, not just students who are struggling with or not understanding course content

### SI LEADER PROFILE

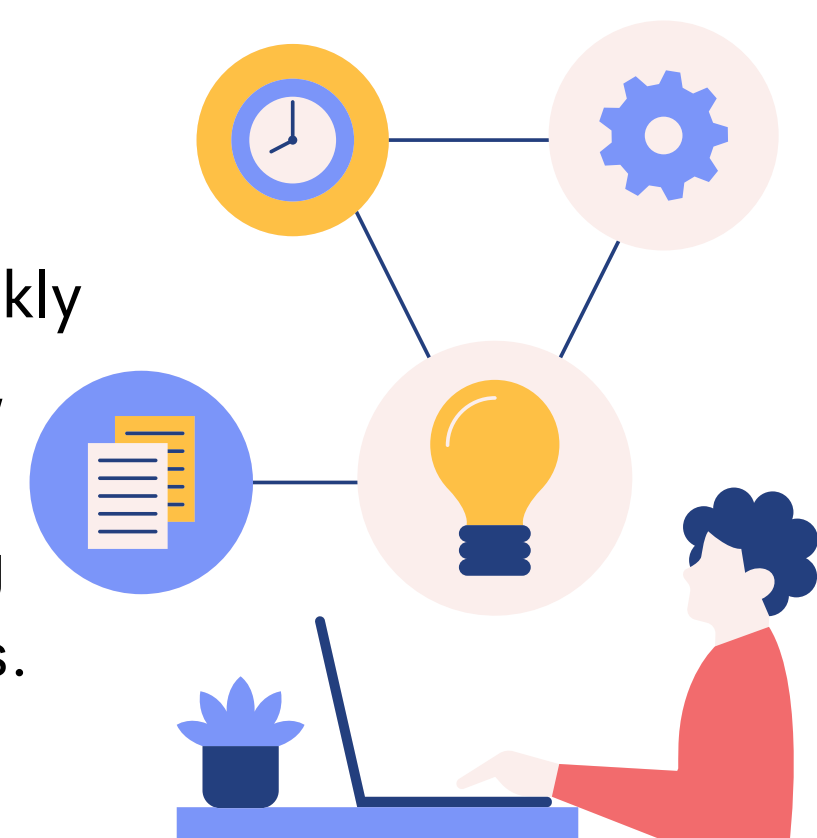
SI sessions are facilitated by trained SI Leaders, who are:

- nominated by faculty who teaches targeted course
- enrolled at NSU and has taken the course in the previous 1-3 semester
- overall GPA of a minimum of 3.0.
- demonstrates leadership and has an interest and ability to work with peers in small group settings

### WHAT MAKES SI LEADERS QUALIFIED TO FACILITATE SI STUDY SESSIONS?

SI Leaders are undergraduate students who have successfully completed the targeted course. They 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. They also convene regularly with faculty to discuss the concepts that should be reviewed in the weekly SI sessions.

SI Leaders are responsible for facilitating two weekly SI Review Sessions, preparing lesson plans and attending SI training meetings.





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### ORIGIN OF SI

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. The SI program provides assistance on an outreach basis in regularly scheduled out-of-class study sessions that begin the 1st week of class. 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.

### MORE QUESTIONS REGARDING THE SI PROGRAM AT NSU?

Email: [siprogram@nova.edu](mailto:siprogram@nova.edu)

Phone Number: (954) 262-8391

Website: [nova.edu/tutoring-testing/supplemental-instruction](http://nova.edu/tutoring-testing/supplemental-instruction)



### HOW DOES SI BENEFIT MY STUDENTS?

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 DOES A TYPICAL SI SESSION LOOK LIKE?

During SI sessions, students will review lecture presentations, engage in thoughtful class discussions regarding course topics, apply concepts, compare notes, as well as learn new study skills, such as memory techniques, note-taking, and test-taking strategies.

