



SUPPLEMENTAL INSTRUCTION

Student 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.

WHAT TO EXPECT...

The SI Experience

- Weekly study sessions led by a peer who has successfully taken the course.
- An informal study group where it's ok to make a mistake.
- A place to collaborate and share study tips.
- A way to grasp tough material and break it down into understandable segments.
- A way to save time, money and frustration.
- To increase retention and graduation rates.

WHO ARE SI LEADERS?

SI sessions are facilitated by trained SI Leaders; students nominated by faculty who have successfully taken the course in a previous semester and have mastered course content. Also, they must have an overall GPA of a minimum of 3.2. SI Leaders attend classes with you so they can better assist you during the SI sessions.

WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS

- ➔ It's FREE!
- ➔ SI sessions are voluntary, informal and casual.
- ➔ Develop study skills and strategies.
- ➔ You get to meet with classmates to compare notes.
- ➔ Ask questions to your SI Leader and review class material in a new way.



WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN PEER TUTORING AND SI?

Supplemental Instruction

- SI Leader works with a group of students.
- The SI Leader attends a designated class.
- The SI Leader works with a specific faculty member.
- SI Leaders emphasize collaborative learning strategies.

Peer-Tutoring

- Peer Tutor works with 1–2 student(s) at a time.
- The Peer Tutor is not required to attend a section of the course.
- The Peer Tutor is not associated with 1 designated faculty member.
- Peer Tutors emphasize individual study and organizational skills.



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WHEN ARE SI SESSIONS HELD?

SI sessions are held regularly at least 2 times per week. Group study sessions begin during the second week of classes. Your SI leader will announce SI session day and times in class and in the course GROUPME. Additional extended group study review sessions may be held prior to major exams and/or midterms and finals. For the current SI Sessions Schedule check the website.

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.

Sometimes SI Leaders will review for upcoming exams by playing Jeopardy or other fun games with their groups. Students will focus on "what to learn" while learning "how to learn".

WHICH COURSES OFFER SI?

SI offerings change every semester. SI Leaders will visit your class on the first day to discuss SI. Also, you can refer to the SI webpage and review the Schedule of SI Sessions.



How do I become an SI Leader?

Qualifications:

- ▶ Content competency
- ▶ A grade of B+ in the selected course is required, prior enrollment with the professor who is to teach the selected course is preferred.
- ▶ An overall GPA of 3.0 or above
- ▶ Good interpersonal and communication skills

The SI program employs student leaders who have a passion for helping others learn better. The SI Leader attends lectures, conducts weekly review sessions, prepares lesson plans, interfaces with faculty, and attends SI meetings.

SI application opens near the time of course registration. Interested students should check the SI website for updates.

MORE QUESTIONS REGARDING THE SI PROGRAM AT NSU?

Email: siprogram@nova.edu

Phone Number: (954) 262-8391

Website: nova.edu/tutoring-testing/supplemental-instruction

Why do SI Leaders take attendance?

Attendance is taken to track participation and assist with overall program evaluation.