WHAT TYPES OF PEER TUTORING SUPPORT ARE AVAILABLE AT WCU?

The Writing and Learning Commons (WaLC), located in Belk 207, provides seven types of academic support:

- <u>Course tutors</u> are identified by faculty to help students review and practice course content. In most cases, course tutors have completed the tutored course and earned an A.
- <u>Writing tutors</u> help students with any type of writing assignment. Writing tutors focus first on global concerns such as thesis, structure, research, and assignment requirements. Once those concerns are addressed, writing tutors work with students on surface-level issues such as grammar and punctuation.
- <u>Writing fellows</u> are requested by instructors to work with a specific class on writing assignments. They read and respond to drafts in a two-week cycle prior to the instructor's assignment due dates.
- <u>Lab report tutors</u> are writing tutors who specialize in science writing and can assist students as they work on the formatting and language in their lab reports.
- <u>Academic skills consultants</u> (ASCs) meet one-on-one with students to discuss their habits for note-taking, time management, study skills, test-taking, and reading. They also visit classes to facilitate workshops.
- <u>International student consultants</u> (ISCs) help non-native speakers of English navigate assignments, syllabuses, and conversational skills. Most are writing tutors with an interest in teaching English as another language.
- <u>Supplemental Instruction (SI) Leaders</u> are embedded in classes that have historically high rates of D, F, W grades. SI Leaders facilitate collaborative SI sessions that focus on the most difficult course concepts.

The Mathematics Tutoring Center (MTC), located in Stillwell 455, provides these free services:

- <u>Drop-in-tutors</u> are identified by Math and Computer Science faculty based on performance. Most tutors have successfully completed Calculus II or above and are equipped to assist students with a variety of math content.
- <u>Appointment-based course tutors</u> are available to help with traditionally-difficult liberal studies classes such as college algebra, precalculus, calculus I, and applied statistics.
- <u>One-on-one and small-group tutoring</u> can be requested by students and/or faculty as needed.
- <u>GRE, LSAT, and MCAT reviews</u> are offered in the fall and spring semesters. Additional resources are available online at examprep.wcu.edu.

CAN I SEND MY WHOLE CLASS TO THE WaLC FOR WRITING HELP?

Although we appreciate your wish for all students to receive help, we ask that you do not require an entire class to make appointments with writing tutors. This influx of students overwhelms our schedule, and we may have to turn away students from other classes who want to come willingly to the WaLC. If you wish to make writing tutoring a requirement, consider the writing fellows program.

WHAT IF MY STUDENTS NEED HELP WITH GENERAL SKILLS LIKE READING AND NOTE TAKING?

The WaLC offers one-on-one academic skills consultations to students who need help identifying effective learning strategies. To schedule an academic skills workshop for your whole class, visit tutoring.wcu.edu and click on the Faculty Toolbox to read the workshop descriptions and submit a request.

HOW CAN I FIND INFORMATION ABOUT STUDENTS' VISITS TO THE WALC AND MTC?

We use Navigate to track students' tutoring activities. Please contact us for a report of your students' visits.

WHAT IS THE PROCESS FOR RECOMMENDING A TUTOR TO WORK WITH MY CLASS?

Instructors can recommend course tutors, writing fellows, and Supplemental Instruction Leaders to work specifically with their classes. Visit tutoring.wcu.edu and click on the Faculty Toolbox to submit a tutor recommendation form.

I HAVE A TUTOR FOR MY CLASS. NOW WHAT?

Promote tutoring as a resource that is encouraged for all students who want to enhance their academic strategies and improve their knowledge. Communicate with tutors who may contact you about the following:

- Meeting with you to discuss your class, your assignments, and your expectations for students. Tutors also may ask you to provide a copy of the course textbook for inclusion in the WaLC's library.
- Visiting your class to make a brief, 5- to 10-minute introduction to your students.
- Requesting tutor-level Blackboard access, where appropriate.

ARE NEW TUTORS TRAINED?

Yes! All new tutors are required to enroll in USI 202: Intro to Peer Tutoring. In this one-hour credit class, new tutors learn how to help their clients develop the skills they need to become independent learners and successful students.

WCU's tutor training program has been certified by the College Reading and Learning Association (CRLA), which has established an internationally-accepted standard of skills and training for tutors. Tutors can earn up to 3 levels of tutor certification. Certification is linked with merit pay increases and is transferrable to other institutions with CRLA-certified programs.

I WANT TO HELP MY STUDENTS STOP PLAGIARIZING. CAN THE WALC HELP?

Faculty have several options to help students learn proper research and citation practices:

- In-class workshops: The WaLC offers a general plagiarism workshop, APA citation workshop, and Chicago/Turabian workshop.
- Plagiarism module in Blackboard: Visit the Coulter Faculty Commons' Blackboard support page to upload the Academic Integrity Learning Module, which contains activities for students and resources for faculty.
- One-on-one writing tutoring: Encourage students to visit the WaLC as a preventative strategy.

WHEN ARE TUTORS AVAILABLE?

- MTC drop-in tutors are available Monday – Thursday from 9:00 am – 9:00 pm and on Fridays from 9:00 am – 5:00 pm.
- The WaLC is open Monday – Thursday from 8:00 am – 9:00 pm and on Fridays from 8:00 am – 5:00 pm. Students are encouraged to schedule appointments in advance through Navigate (navigate.wcu.edu).

WHERE CAN I GO FOR MORE INFORMATION?

- For course tutoring questions, contact Chesney Reich, reich@wcu.edu, x2273.
- For writing tutoring, writing fellows, and writing workshop questions, contact Mattie Davenport, mrdavenport@wcu.edu, x3426.
- For information about Supplemental Instruction or academic skills consultations and workshops, contact Katie Pierce, piercek@wcu.edu, x2149.
- For math tutoring questions, contact Sibley Bryan, fsbryan@wcu.edu, x3830, and visit mtc.wcu.edu.
- Visit tutoring.wcu.edu and click on the Faculty Toolbox for links to our current tutor assignment list, syllabus statement, tutor recommendation form, in-class workshop request form, and more!