

STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES



February 2020

- ▶ Talking to Your Professor
- ▶ Scholarships ▶ Upcoming Events
- ▶ Graduates
- and more . . .

Tutoring Makes Good Students Better

Your peer tutors are eager to help you achieve your academic goals, so use them creatively. You can see a tutor for test prep, paper proofing, citation assistance, practicing a speech, project advice, brainstorming, and so much more. You don't have to be struggling in a class to take advantage of these brilliant minds.

The drop-in tutoring schedule is online (<https://apps.concord.edu/tutoring/>) and has photos of tutors, which makes them easy to find in the study and tutoring center (mezzanine level of the library), Monday - Thursday from 11am - 9pm. No appointment is needed.

Exclusively for SSS students, individual tutoring appointments can be arranged to cater to your available times. Please see Beth Sampson in the SSS office #202, Student Center to request a one-on-one appointment.

TUTORS ARE . . .

- Happy to help
- Willing to share notes/flashcards
- Patient
- Experienced in CU courses
- Recommended by CU faculty
- Smart, but human and relatable

TUTORS ARE NOT . . .

- Bothered by questions
- So smart you can't understand them
- Judgmental
- Perfect
- Going to laugh at you
- Unapproachable



Scholarships Exclusively for SSS Participants

It's that time of year again: scholarship time! Our scholarship application is officially live and will remain so until

March 1, 2020. If you'd like a chance at either our Student Support Services Grant scholarship or our Skip-Powell scholarship, please complete the application ([click here to apply](#)).

Note that scholarship awards depend on several factors including but not limited to GPA and financial aid packaging. Scholarships will be awarded in two parts, starting the end of March and again at the end of the semester. You will be notified via email if you are awarded either scholarship so keep an eye out!

Dates to Remember

Monday, February 10

Graduation Fair
10am - 1pm in the Ballroom

Friday, February 14

Valentines Day Event 12 pm - 2pm,
SSS Office #202, Student Center

Sunday, February 18

FAFSA Workshop
2pm , Admin #320

Saturday, February 29

TRiO Day (Five Loaves & Two
Fishes)

Wednesday, March 4

Midterm Grades Reported

MEET THE STAFF

Kristen



Darrick



Andrea



Beth



SSS Staff Members & Contact Information

Main Office Number 304.384.6088

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Director's Corner

Spring has sprung and we are off and running in a new semester brimming with opportunities! We started the semester with a *Free-to-You School Shopping Event* (keep us in mind throughout the semester if you need anything from a pen or notebook to financial counseling or academic tutoring).

As we head into this semester, check your Student Support Services (SSS) spring calendar – it's loaded with activities! For those wanting to get volunteer hours for anything from Greek life to Bonner, we will be celebrating National TRiO Day, Saturday February 29th, at Five Loaves and Two Fishes Food Bank in McDowell County (transportation provided).

We also have a number of workshops coming up over the semester that could help you hone the skills you need to reach the graduation stage. Remember: you are meant to attend at least two workshops each year as a member of SSS, but you are not limited to *just* two. We'd love to see you at all of them! Coming up on March 26th, we will be having an SSS Board Game Night in the office (Student Center 202), from 7-9pm. Pizza, games, and fun - what better way to spend a Thursday evening at Concord?

For our cultural event this spring, we are purchasing tickets for SSS participants to attend the amazing International Banquet here at CU. If you have never been, get ready because it is a not to be missed extravaganza of international cuisine and entertainment! SSS tickets will be on a first come first serve basis. An email will go out when we start accepting reservations in our office.

Remember that Darrick, Beth, Andrea, and I are here and ready to help you make this semester a success. So, as I will end each of the Director's Corner, I'd like to remind you that SSS is your one-stop-shop for any of your needs this semester.

Have questions about scheduling? Stop by the office!

Need help with your FAFSA? Come see us!

Stressed about a test? Stop in and talk over test taking or anxiety reduction strategies.

Have some good news to share? We want to hear all about it!

Struggling in a class? We've got tutors for you.

Anxious about your speech? Come try it out on us first.

Want to talk with another student about your problems? Our AIM Mentors are here for you!

Interested in expanding your horizons? Come on a cultural trip with us.

Want to attend an event on campus without having to go alone? Meet up at the office and we'll go together!

In other words, bring your challenges to us. We will work with you to find the answers you need to move forward!

Respectfully,

Kristen O'Sullivan, MSW
Director



Microwavable Omelette In A Mug

Ingredients for one serving . . .

2 eggs
Diced bell pepper
Diced ham or bacon bits
Salt, pepper to taste

Preparation

1. Combine all ingredients in a microwavable mug
2. Cook for 2—3 minutes, making sure the mixture doesn't bubble over. Stir halfway through.
3. Enjoy!



**Tuesday, February 4th
2pm - 3pm**

“Talking to Your Professor”

Marsh Hall - Room 320

**Hear what over 30 Concord Professors have to say
about the best ways to approach them!!!**

Here are some examples:

“One main thing I believe students need to hear over and over, is professors are here to help them succeed. Professors enjoy seeing students engaged in their own academic futures through open communication, expression of thought, ideas, etc.”

*Ms. Nia N. Key
Instructor Social Work*

“1) The safest way to approach a professor is to call them "Professor _____"; Professor is a neutral term in academia.
2) Try to make an appointment if possible. If not, try to stop by their office during office hours.
3) We are not your friend. We are here to teach you and help you during your time at Concord. Talk or email politely in proper English.
4) Be honest and tell us when you need help. We can direct you to lots of resources and get help if we know you are struggling in a class, any class.”

*Dr. Darla J. Wise
Professor of Biology*

“I think email etiquette (addressing a professor properly, having a subject line, and signing their names at the bottom), and being punctual are two things that come to mind immediately. Also, if they cannot come to class, it is always good to email and let us know.”

*Dr. Shimantini Shome
Associate Professor of Geography*

Reminder:

It is mandatory for SSS students to attend at least two workshops during the academic year.

Editing Etiquette

Everyone has to write a paper sometime – it’s inevitable. That said, you’re probably going to end up asking someone to look over a paper for you. It might be a tutor, a friend, a staff member, or even the professor. Regardless, there are a few things you should have ready for your editor.

Firstly, you should give notice and time. These may not seem like the most integral, but they’re some of the most important to give your editor. If you don’t give your editor notice, they might not have the availability to edit for you. There are plenty of occurrences of students emailing papers at midnight the night before the paper is due. This is not only *very* rude, but it’s simply not enough notice to the editor. The bare minimum is at *least* twenty-four hours before the paper is due. Ideally, you’d give your editor more time and notice as editing can be a very intensive process and a work can require several rounds of editing before all mistakes are caught and corrected.

You should also have your essay or the section of the work you want edited *completed* prior to seeing your editor. Your editor is primarily there to help you catch mistakes – not to assist in creating the work (creation is a different part of the process and is *not* part of editing). Your editor will assist in correcting grammar, restructuring sentences, condensing material, and the like, but, in order to do this, they have to have something to work with. Having your completed document will allow them to see what they’re working with and how to best assist you.

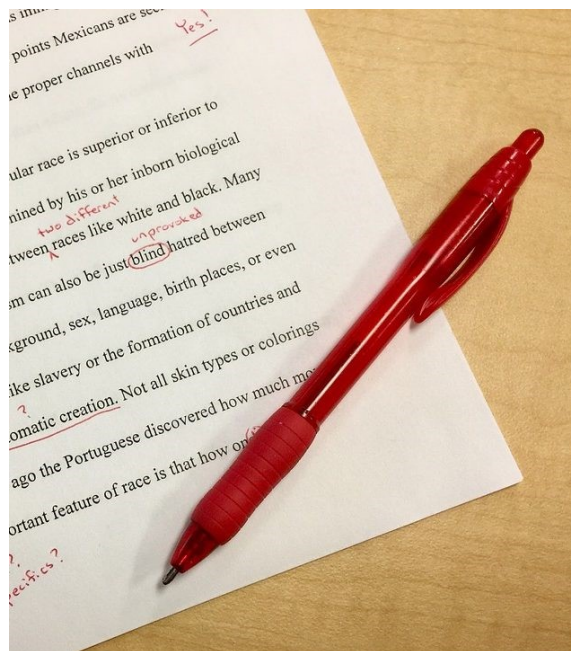
You should have a clear idea of what you want your work to convey. In short, if you don’t know what you want to say, there’s no way your work can be edited to convey your point clearly. This is true of any piece you create – creative or academic. If you don’t know what you want a character to do, your editor has no way to help you make that character do said action. If you don’t know what your research says, your editor can’t help you convey your results. You have to have a clear idea of what thought you want to come across in your work in order for your editor to best be able to assist you with putting that thought to paper. That said, if you don’t have a clear idea, you can always see a drop-in or one-on-one tutor to gain a better idea.

You should also have any cited materials on hand. If you don’t, the editor will not be able to reference your citations to ensure they are correctly cited, accurately conveyed, correctly quoted, and so on. Sometimes the source is a reference book that can’t be checked out, however. If you can’t have the source readily available, try to have photocopies or pictures of the title page, the copyright page, the page(s) cited, and anything else you might need for your citation.

Potentially the most important is to have a good attitude about the careful and constructive editing offered to you. When someone edits your paper, they’re paying attention to every word and punctuation mark you’ve used on each page you’ve presented to them. They debate every mark on that paper. That takes a huge amount of effort and time. It’s something you should appreciate and thank someone for each time you receive it – especially if that person has marked things for you. Don’t take suggested edits as an insult or as your editor saying that your paper is “trash.” Take it as your editor offering their time and effort to assist you in making something into the best it can be, because, if someone takes their time to edit your paper, they have shown that they not only care, but that they want you to succeed at what you’re doing. Edits have to be made on any paper – no matter how good of a writer you are. Take them with graciousness and tact, say “thank you” to your editor or tutor for their honest hard work, and use that constructive criticism to make your work the best it can be!

Andrea Rollins

Administrative Associate



GETTING TO KNOW YOU

Over the next few newsletters, SSS will present Q & A style articles with members of our student staff. This time, we are featuring a sophomore you may have seen around the office this semester.



- Tallya Rhodes
- Office Assistant
- Athletic Training Program

● **Of all the classes you have taken at CU, which is your favorite?**

“My favorite class that I have taken so far at CU is P ED 118, which is individual and dual sports. This class is more like a gym class it gives me the chance to find activities that are enjoyable where I don't need a whole team to do. Something I can do as I get older.”

● **How do you like to de-stress?**

“When it comes to de-stressing, I do my best to take what is causing that stress and put it to the side, out of sight. Then, I'll either talk to someone about it, get it out in the open and not amplifying in my head. Or I will go to the gym for about an hour and completely focus on something that isn't dependent on thinking and analyzing.”

● **Is there a tool that you would recommend for helping a student to stay organized?**

“Organizational charts/calenders have been my best friend since starting college. The great thing about charts is that you can write down the many assignments you have due in a certain time period along with the due dates so that you know what is coming up and when and it is always in front of you. Also, you can use those charts to break those assignments down into chunks so that you aren't doing it all at once. Calender's are helpful in visualizing what your week/month will look like in terms of exams, meetings, classes, due dates, etc.”

● **Where is your favorite place to study?**

“My favorite place to study is typically the SSS office because I feel motivated to actually do my work. The library is great but I'm not comfortable there and a lot of times just end up on my phone.”

● **Do you have a good tip for improving dorm living?**

“My one tip for improving dorm living is to have open communication with your roommate AND suite mates (if applicable). That open communication can help with future problems that may rise up and you guys can actually talk about it and hopefully get it resolved.”

● **How do you define success?**

“My definition of success is different from most people. I define success as how hard someone has tried to accomplish something, no matter the results. For me, I try to define my success in that I tried my hardest in what ever I set out to do. I am not perfect and sometimes feel as though I could have done better, but at the end of the day I tried and that's what's important.”

● **If you had a theme song, what would it be?**

“If I had a theme song, it would be Ambition by Wale ft. Meek Mill and Rick Ross. ‘Ambition is priceless, it's something that's in your veins’”

Congratulations

SSS December Graduates

