

THE CAVE

The Center for Academic Vision and Excellence, the CAVE, provides Academic Support, Peer-Assisted Learning (PAL) Coaching, Peer Tutoring, Supplemental Instruction, and Accommodated Testing for students during the academic year (August to April). Additionally, the CAVE offers Success Workshops, Class Visits, and Class Presentations. Finally, the CAVE makes available multiple study areas and a computer lab for student academic use.

SEPTEMBER AT-A-GLANCE

PAL Coach Pop-ups: Seeking Resources & Staying Focused

Join the Peer-Assisted Learning (PAL) coaches twice this month for opportunities to learn about campus resources that will help in the pursuit for success. PALs will explain the coaching program, the drop-in and appointment processes, and the value of completing the LASSI (September 4th). Later on in the month, PALs will give pointers to students on focusing and committing to course work (September 18th). PAL Coach Pop-ups are held in the Kirk Hall Breezeway from 11:30am-12:30pm.



Journey to Academic Success Week

This month, the CAVE is introducing, *Journey to Academic Success* week. This 5-day event, being held September 16th-20th, is devoted to providing students with engaging and interactive educational activities. The expected outcomes of the activities will be to encourage progression and retention efforts for students. During the events, various facilitators will present workshops to help students build their academic tool boxes, skills, and strategies.

Majors Fair 2019: Voyage to Job Success

The CAVE is hosting its second annual Majors Fair on September 26th, from 11:00am-1:00pm in the Student Center Boardrooms. The goal of Majors Fair is to provide students with opportunities to explore majors of the University, while connecting with staff and faculty from various departments. We anticipate students will gain insight into their academic goals and, potentially, determine which major is best suited to their short and long term goals.



National Tutor Appreciation Week

Tutor Appreciation Day, September 30th, kicks off National Tutor Appreciation Week, the first week of October. The CAVE supports this movement of gratitude as we acknowledge the commitment, generous spirits, and dedicated hearts of our tutors who work to help students become independent learners. The CAVE tutors are always ready to support student's academic needs and are looking forward to helping students prepare for the upcoming mid-term exam period. Stop by the CAVE front desk and leave a thank you note for a tutor!

OTHER SERVICES OFFERED

Directed Learning Activities (DLAs)

The CAVE offers support to faculty in the development of Directed Learning Activities (DLA). A DLA is an exercise developed by a faculty member that students complete in a tutoring center. A DLA allows the students to practice a concept or skill introduced in class. A DLA differs from a homework assignment in that a DLA 1) usually has a short time limit – 30 to 45 minutes, and 2) requires a follow-up session with a tutor or PAL Coach after completion. Though DLAs are not graded, some instructors may assign the completion of a certain number of DLAs per semester as a percentage of the students' overall grade. Assigning DLAs assures that the students are getting extra practice and receiving face-to-face assistance from tutors or PAL Coaches. Ideally, DLAs are created as a department project so as to ensure consensus among the faculty on what skills and concepts are crucial for courses. Contact Jo Hutterli for more information.

Tutoring at the CAVE

Drop-in peer tutoring sessions are offered to undergraduate students. Tutors provide content specific help in a range of courses (including Math/Science, English/Writing, and Business). Student who need help specifically with writing are advised to make an appointment with a Writing Tutor. Appointment may be made within the Accudemia portal. Tutors also serve in the capacity of Supplemental Instruction (SI) leaders for historically challenging courses. SI leaders, facilitate weekly SI sessions for students in designated SI courses.

PAL Coaching at the CAVE

Drop-in Peer-Assisted Learning, PAL, coaching sessions are offered to undergraduate students. PALs provide non-content specific academic support for students that focuses on acquiring academic tools, skills, and strategies for learning, remembering, and applying knowledge. PALs are available to meet with students in 30-50 minute increments on a weekly basis. In these weekly meetings, PALs may help students set academic goals, better understand how to access campus resources, and encourage students to remain involved in their learning.

What can a Tutor do for students?



Discuss ideas and explain course content.

Assist with questions covering course material.

Make sure you're using learning strategies that work.

Assist with preparing for exams.

Point out errors and suggest corrections.

What can a PAL Coach do for students?



Introduce enhanced learning strategies.

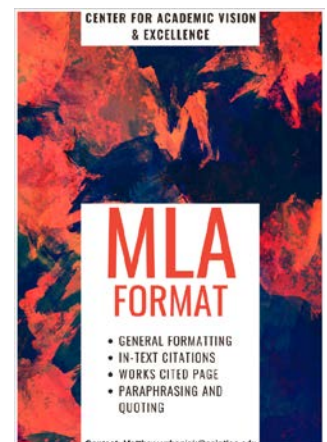
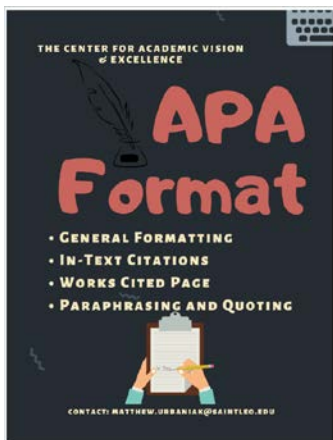
Improve study skills.

Strengthen time management & organization skills.

Present memory strategies for exam preparation.

Serve as an academic role model.

ACADEMIC WORKSHOPS TO-GO



Contact Matthew Urbanik for more information.

CONTACT, FIND, AND FOLLOW US

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