Spring 2019 TSLC Study Hours

Study hours will begin on Sunday, January 13th, 2019. 1st-Year students are required to complete 60 minutes of study hours at these locations every week through Thursday, April 18th; students will not need to complete study hours on Jan. 20th and 21st due to the Martin Luther King Jr. holiday and during Spring Break week. Students who do not complete study hours as required will have to meet with Yao Zheng. The TSLC PALs and Study Hour Proctors will be facilitating the study hours in the ManTor Seminar Room and the UNK Library during these hours on a weekly basis:

- **Mantor Hall Seminar Room (For Mantor Hall Residents Only)**
  - Sunday – Thursday (6:00 PM – 9:00 PM)

- **UNK Library**
  - Monday – Thursday (12:30 PM – 9:00 PM)

Study hours incentives will be offered again this semester. The top five students with the most minutes will be rewarded at the semester’s end. Students who attend every week will also receive an incentive. The student with the most accumulated hours will receive up to $50 in merchandise from the UNK Antelope Bookstore.

If you have questions about TSLC study hours, please contact Yao Zheng at the TSLC Office, by email at zhengc1@unk.edu, or by calling the office at 308-865-8364.

TSCLC Success Sessions Begin: How to Ask for Letters of Recommendation

A Success Session on how to ask for letters of recommendation will be presented this Wednesday, January 9th at 5:30 PM in Copeland Hall 130 by Jennifer Harvey. Students often ask UNK faculty and staff members to write letters of recommendation. During the spring term, students frequently run for office in student organizations, apply for summer jobs or internships, and/or apply for campus positions/programs for the following academic year; thus, knowing how to ask for recommendations is important so that students can secure positive recommendations by the necessary deadlines.

The presentation will help students to learn about the timeline for asking for a letter of recommendation, how to decide whom to ask for a letter, the details students should provide when asking someone to complete a letter, and basic etiquette students should follow through this process. We invite you to attend and sharpen your professional skills.

A complete listing of the Success Sessions can be accessed here, and the next newsletter will also include a complete listing of the sessions:

1st-Year Expectations for Spring 2019

Spring semester ushers in new learning community expectations for TSLC 1st-Year students. The TSLC works with 1st-Year students to transition into more independent choices and time management during this semester. Specific information has been distributed to you via email, and the mentors will distribute paper copies at your first meetings as well. Please add these required and independently selected events on your calendar so that you can attend and meet your learning community expectations. While many of the expectations remain similar to the fall term, there are a few changes that you should be aware of, including:

1st-Year students will schedule and attend meetings on a bi-weekly basis with their TSLC mentor, rather than weekly, as was done this past semester. Please connect with your mentor the first week of classes to schedule your regular meetings this term; scheduled meetings will begin either the second or third week of classes.

1st-Year students must attend three Success Sessions, which are selected individually by students. The TSLC, in partnership with the TRiO-SSS Program, is providing 13 Success Sessions to choose from this spring. While 1st-Year students must attend at least three, you are welcome to attend as many as you are interested in. Be sure to sign-in at each session and attend the full session to receive “credit” for attending; you will not receive credit if you show up late to a session.

If you have general concerns about expectations, feel free to contact any TSLC staff member. Questions regarding Success Sessions, study hours, and TSLC events should be directed to Yao.

The TSLC Program welcomes new transfer Thompson Scholars to UNK, and welcomes back the returning Thompson Scholars for the Spring 2019 term. We look forward to working with you towards your academic and personal goals this semester!

TSLC Mentor Applications for 2019-2020: Due 2/1/19

The Thompson Scholars Learning Community is currently accepting applications for TSLC mentors during the 2019-2020 academic year. The mentor position is open to any Thompson Scholar who will be enrolled full-time at UNK during Fall 2019 and Spring 2020 (12+ credit hours) and have obtained sophomore academic status (more than 27 credit hours completed) by end of Summer 2019. At the time of application, preference for interviews will be given to students who have earned at least a 3.0 cumulative GPA; applicants who have earned below the cumulative GPA may not receive full consideration for an interview.

The TSLC mentor position has a time commitment of approximately 10 hours per week, and is a great way to give back to the community while building skills in communication, time management, and leadership. Compensation for the mentor positions will be a double room and board waiver for Mantor Hall and the Loper Meal Plan for the 2019-2020 academic year.

If you are interested in applying, please email Scotty (seebash@unk.edu) to receive the application materials and instructions for securing recommendations. Applications and recommendations are due by Friday, February 1st, 2019, at 5PM to receive full-consideration.

Student of the Week

Name: Alyna Padilla

Hometown: Stanton, NE

Major: Deciding

What is the best part about being a Thompson Scholar? I think the best part about being a Thompson Scholar is how much support you gain and the relationships you build. I have never been a part of such an impactful community full of people who want to see you grow and do your best whether that be mentors, PALs, or even your friends down the hall. I genuinely have never known what it’s like to be a part of a “family” like this, and even though that sounds super cliché, it’s the truth and it’s honestly the best part.

What’s your karaoke song? I live for the song, Dream a Little Dream of Me by the Mammmas and the Papa’s. They were a folk-rock vocal group in the late 60’s. My grandmother listens to them all the time, I’m obsessed with their sound, and that song just matches well with the music I prefer to sing.

What’s the biggest challenge you have ever faced? I think the biggest challenge I have ever faced was having to grow up so fast. I grew up in a single parent household where that parent was barely ever there; I practically had to raise myself and my two younger siblings. Growing up it made me a lot more insecure than other kids knowing how lucky they were having a stable home like that but in reality, that challenge made me who I am. I have grown so much from it and have faced so much I know I wouldn’t be as strong or as outgoing as I am today without this challenge in my life.

What do you binge-watch? I’m addicted to BuzzFeed. I watch BuzzFeed every day. If I could choose the most perfect job for myself I would work at BuzzFeed. I’m obsessed with their videos.