Upcoming Events:

**Friday, September 27th:**
Assumption of Risk and Responsibility Forms are due to the TSLC Office for the Kansas City trip for all 1st-Year Thompson Scholars. A parent or guardian signature is required if the student is under age 19.

**Wednesday, October 16th:**
Mid-Semester Grade Check Forms are due to the TSLC office; forms will be distributed to students in September.

**Saturday, October 19th and Sunday, October 20th:**
Kansas City fall break trip for all 1st-Year Thompson Scholars.

**Sunday, October 20th and Thursday, October 24th:**
No TSLC Study Hours due to Fall Break.

**Monday, October 21st and Tuesday, October 22nd:**
No classes at UNK - Fall Break.

**Sunday, November 3rd:**
Honey Sunday service activity for all 1st-Year Thompson Scholars. Exact time and meeting location to be announced, but the event is typically during afternoon hours.

**Tuesday, November 12th OR Wednesday, November 13th:**
Résumé Writing Workshop for 2nd-Year Thompson Scholars. 6:30-8:00 PM in Copeland Hall 130. Scholars will need to attend one of the two sessions.

**Sunday, November 24th and Thursday, November 28th:**
No TSLC Study Hours due to Thanksgiving Break.

Overcoming Academic Challenges

As we move towards mid-semester, if you are experiencing challenges with some of your academic coursework, you can take some basic steps for improvement and support.

*Speak with your Instructor:* By taking some time to visit with your instructor during office hours, you might be able to learn more about your performance on an exam. For instance, the instructor may be able to identify some patterns in the questions you answered incorrectly or even provide some particular study tips you can use to improve your scores on upcoming exams.

*Study Differently/More:* No matter if you never had to study or if you spent much time studying in high school, college is an adjustment for every student. Students should commit to their studies as if their class attendance and study time is a full-time job. It is a student’s responsibility to learn, which means preparing for each class, reading recommended texts, attending class, completing all assignments, and preparing over time for tests (not cramming for exams).

*Use Campus Resources:* While you may not have used academic resources before college, it is common on college campuses for students to access support services to achieve better grades. Plan time to use resources such as the writing center, learning commons tutors, or language tables. Ask other focused students in your classes to create a study group to help you learn more actively. If you are unsure of available resources, reach out to instructors, mentors, PALs, or TSLC staff for assistance.

*Set Achievable Goals:* Review your syllabus and consider how your current grade impacts your overall ability to succeed in the class. How many points will be recorded in the class? Determine how you have to perform the rest of the semester to achieve a particular grade, reset your goals if needed, and put focused attention into achieving that grade for the rest of the semester.

*Don’t Give Up!* Yes, earning a low grade can be upsetting, but you should consider it to be one step in your collegiate learning experience. Admit to yourself if you need to work harder, if that is the case. Speak to an academic advisor or TSLC staff member if you feel you cannot be successful in a particular class so that you can assess your academic options. Know that one grade is not a reflection your ability to succeed in college; earning a degree will include experiencing failure as well as success.

A new plaque was installed by the doorway of the TSLC Office during summer 2019. Every time Thompson Scholars pass by or enter the TSLC Office, we want this plaque to remind them of their long-term educational goal.

We believe every Thompson Scholar can graduate.
Student of the Week

Name: Victoria Maring

Hometown: Grand Island, NE

Major: Veterinary Medicine

What is the best part about being a Thompson Scholar? The best part about being a Thompson Scholar is that there is always the TSLC here to support you and encourage you during your best and worst days. Honestly, the TSLC is like your home away from home.

What’s a movie you can practically quote from start to finish? The Greatest Showman.

What motivates you? One thing that motivates me is knowing that one day there will be client’s coming into my vet clinic relying on me to help or potentially save their animal. This gives me the courage to continue working hard so that one day my dream will come true and I will be saving a client’s pet.

What experience in life has made you a stronger person? The experience in my life that has made me stronger has been watching my father fight cancer for the past 8 years! It has helped me with my faith, courage, and being a better person.

Where is your favorite place to visit and why? My favorite place to visit is the bay of Maine down by Portland, Bar Harbor, Mt. Vernon, etc. Maine is a very beautiful place with amazing scenery and views and also exhibits a lot of small shops for sightseeing.

What do you binge-watch? Grey’s Anatomy and AGT!

What are you obsessed with? I am obsessed with owning/raising Lionhead bunnies as they have a natural calm disposition and they love to cuddle!

Tools for Thompson Scholars:

On the UNK Thompson Scholars Learning Community website, students can find a “Tools for Students” link which can connect students to many helpful academic resources.

http://www.unk.edu/offices/tslc/tools_for_students.php

Thompson Scholars can access several UNK resources from this page, such as an academic schedule planning page or the university calendar. Students can view outside resources that can assist with academic work, such as the Purdue Online Writing Lab for help with formatting citations, a GPA calculator which is useful when students complete grade checks, or study skills guides for college students. Also, an entire section is dedicated to the PRAXIS, including some practice testing centers and links to textbooks available to students via the UNK Calvin T. Ryan library.

UNK Leadership, Education, and Development Series (LEADS)

Students who are interested in developing leadership skills at UNK are invited to engage with the UNK Leadership, Education, and Development Series (LEADS). UNK LEADS is a self-guided leadership experience for students that can be completed over the course of up to four semesters, which is operated by the Department of Student Engagement.

Students involved with UNK LEADS focus on the development of twelve core competencies, which builds confidence in leadership skills and helps students prepare for their post-graduate career.

Collaboration
Creating Change
Ethics
Problem Solving
Reflection & Application
Social Responsibility
Conflict Negotiation
Diversity
Positive Attitude
Productive Relationships
Self-Development
Verbal Communication

Benefits of program participation and completion include access to leadership coaching, a letter of recommendation, and professional development workshops. This program is free to UNK students. For more information, please contact Renae Zimmer, Assistant Director of Leadership and Student Engagements at zimmerrl@unk.edu or via phone at 308-865-1603.

The next program is on September 25th at 5:15 PM in COE Room 155, which a presentation led by the Kearney Area Chamber of Commerce President Derek Rusher.

https://www.unk.edu/offices/student_life/unk-leads.php