Upcoming Events:

**Monday, February 17th:**
TSLC Community Conversations from 4:00-5:00 PM in the Mantor Hall Main Lounge. All Thompson Scholars are encouraged to attend. Featured Guest: UNK Graduate Studies.

**Wednesday, February 26th:**
Completed Mid-Semester Grade Check Forms are due to the TSLC office by 5 PM.

**Wednesday, February 26th:**
2nd-Year Scholars: Interview Skills Presentation and Community Dinner with Alumni. From 6:00-8:00 PM in the NSU Ponderosa Room E.

**Wednesday, March 4th:**
1st-Year Scholars: Undergraduate Research and Creative Activity Presentation and Dessert Social. From 6:30-8:00 PM in the NSU Ponderosa Room E.

**Friday, March 13th:**
Last day to drop a full semester class with a “W” in lieu of a grade.

**Tuesday, March 17th:**
TSLC Community Conversations from 3:30-4:30 PM in the Mantor Hall Main Lounge. All Thompson Scholars are encouraged to attend. Featured Guest: Nebraska College of Law.

**Friday, April 3rd:**
2nd-Year Scholars: Major/Career Exploration Assignment is due to the TSLC Office.

**Sunday, April 5th:**
2nd-Year Scholars: Halfway to Graduation Celebration. 6:00-8:00 PM at the Holiday Inn. Business attire is required.

Current 1st-Year Scholars: Planning for TSLC Classes for 2020-2021

Academic departments are putting the finishing touches on their planned schedules for fall, and the UNK Fall 2020 schedule of classes should be available soon. This article serves as a reminder of the required TSLC classes that will be available during year two for our current 1st-Year Thompson Scholars; more information will be distributed in March about the priority registration process that will take place in April.

**Fall 2020**
*TSLC 2nd-Year Students: Must Register for ONE of the following classes*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Info.</th>
<th>Instructor</th>
<th>GS Category</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ART 100 Art Structure</td>
<td>Jackie Abell</td>
<td>(Aesthetics)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIST 251 American History</td>
<td>David Vail</td>
<td>(Humanities)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PE 150 Healthy, Wealthy, Wise</td>
<td>Kate Gienger</td>
<td>(Wellness)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSCI 168 Intro. to Intl. Relations</td>
<td>Charles Rowling</td>
<td>(Soc. Sciences)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOC 100 Intro. to Sociology</td>
<td>Suzanne Maughan</td>
<td>(Soc. Sciences)</td>
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</tbody>
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**NEW! OPEN TSLC Classes: Any TSLC student may register for these classes**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Info.</th>
<th>Instructor</th>
<th>GS Category</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MATH 101 Interm. Algebra</td>
<td>Jacob Weiss</td>
<td>(Mathematics)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSYCH 203 Gen. Psychology</td>
<td>Julie Lanz</td>
<td>(Soc. Sciences)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Spring 2021**
*TSLC 2nd-Year Students: Must Register for ONE of the following classes*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Info.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CJUS 102 Crime, Democracy, and Justice</td>
<td>(Dem. in Pers.)</td>
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<tr>
<td>CSP 417 Counseling Skills</td>
<td>(GS Elective)</td>
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<tr>
<td>SPCH 154 Cross Cultural Communication</td>
<td>(Humanities)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GEOG 103 The Dynamic Planet</td>
<td>(Nat. Sciences)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>THEA 120 Intro. to the Theatre</td>
<td>(Aesthetics)</td>
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If you have questions, please schedule to see Dr. Julie Campbell, TSLC Faculty Coordinator.

Mid-Semester Grade Check Form Due 2/26/20

Completion of the **TSLC Mid-Semester Grade Check Form** is required as part of our program expectations for 1st and 2nd-Year Thompson Scholars, for spring transfer TSLC students, as well as Thompson Scholars on scholarship probation, learning community warning, or academic warning with the TSLC Program. **The form will require students to calculate their GPA once all grades have been collected; please use the suggested GPA calculator on the form. This form is due to the TSLC Office by Wednesday, February 26th at 5 PM; please have it folded or in an envelope when you turn it in to keep your academic information private. The TSLC office will make copies of your completed grade check form for you to submit to other programs or offices upon your request.**
**Student of the Week**

Name: Dayana Hernandez  
Hometown: Grand Island, NE  
Major: Interior and Product Design

**What is the best part about being a Thompson Scholar?** The best part of being a Thompson Scholar is the community we live in. I enjoy living with great people who are fun to be around as well.

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

**What do you wish your phone could do?** I wish it could record my dreams so I could re-watch them.

**What sound or smell do you love?** I love the smell of cologne and the sound of rain.

**Where is your favorite place to visit and why?** My favorite place to visit is Los Angeles, California because I used to live there and it’s nice to revisit the neighborhood I grew up in.

**What do you binge-watch?** I love binge-watching Naruto Shippuden.

**If you could learn anything at all, what would it be?** I would like to learn all the languages that exist because I would like to travel around the world and communicate fluently with whomever I meet.

**If you could have a conversation with any historical figure, who would it be?** Any renaissance artist, but more precisely Vincent Van Gogh. I am really into art and I find his artwork very intriguing. Also, his personal story is fascinating.

**If you could have an all-expenses paid trip to see any famous world monument, which monument would you choose?** I would love to see the Colosseum in Rome, Italy.

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**Tips for Requesting Letters of Recommendation**

Spring semester is a time that many students need recommendations. Scholarship applications, job searches, applications to graduate schools, academic programs, and/or organizations may require you to secure letters of recommendation. While it may seem as simple as dropping off a résumé or sending an email request, there are a few basic steps you should follow to secure a strong letter of recommendation.

*Prepare your résumé, based on your collegiate experiences, as well as a statement of purpose about the reason you are applying.* Based on the skills the application lists for interested applicants, generate a list of recommenders who have observed your skills in those areas. Recommenders should be professional in nature, such as faculty, staff, advisors, project mentors or employment supervisors, unless the application specifies other options.

*Don't ask a professional to write a letter for you who doesn't know you well or who you do not interact with frequently.* Knowing who you are or that you are part of an organization is not enough to write a strong recommendation. If you cannot generate a list of enough professionals to write you letters, it may be a signal to you that you need to take a more active role on campus or in the community.

*Ask professionals if they can write a letter of recommendation for you, in a face-to-face, scheduled meeting.* A couple of questions you might consider asking are, “Do you feel you know me well enough to give me a positive letter of recommendation?” or “Can you write a strong recommendation for me regarding my skills/abilities with…(be prepared to share a list of skills/abilities)?” It is best to be able to submit letters of that speak very highly of you, and in detailed fashion.

*If someone turns you down, don't get offended.* Asking for a recommendation means someone must take time to draft a detailed letter; they may not feel they know you well enough, or they may simply not have the time to write a letter by the deadline you need. Always have a back up plan of additional professionals you can ask in case someone declines to write a letter for you.

*Give whomever you ask for a letter a minimum of two weeks to complete the recommendation.* Include all information needed for the letter, such as whom to write the letter to, what skills could be highlighted in the letter, how to handle the letter when it is finished. If it is to be mailed, provide an addressed envelope with a stamp, and be sure to factor in mailing time with deadlines. It is not customary to ask for a copy of a recommendation letter so that you can read it. It is wise to secure letters of recommendation in advance of final deadlines to be sure you don’t run into challenges.

*If you need more than one letter of recommendation, communicate that information up front to the recommender.* Don’t assume that once they have done one letter for you, you can always expect them to do more. If asking for more than one letter, be organized in asking about what you need, as you should never cause your recommenders to have to seek out information from you to complete the letter.

*Send a thank you note to recommenders for writing letters for you.* Tell the recommender if the letter helped you achieve your goal.