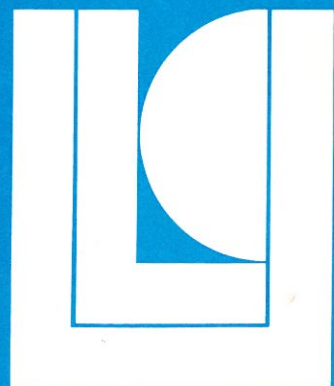


Description of Learning Center Courses



Mathematics

146 Seminar in Mathematics Rev

Aids the student who is deficient in basic computational operations (addition, subtraction, multiplication, division). Deals with sets and sign numbers.

147 Mathematics Review (Algebra)

Reviews basic algebra including signed numbers and sets. Covers polynomials, factoring, exponents, functions and relations, linear and quadratic equations, algebraic fractions, etc.

148 Mathematics Review (Trigonometry)

Reviews trigonometric concepts and function, the right triangle, identities, etc.

Reading

161 College Reading and Study Skills

Provides skills essential to college-level reading and study. Focuses on the fundamentals of reading comprehension, vocabulary development, organization, and reading-study skills necessary for academic achievement.

162 Advanced College Reading

Develops superior ability in the assimilation and critical reading of more challenging material. Increases the rate and versatility in reading and develops greater proficiency in the communication skills required for college performance.

164 Study Skills and Techniques

Helps students to improve their study habits. Covers effective reading of textbooks, listening and note-taking, taking examinations, developing study techniques, and using the library.

104 English Reading and Writing Skills for the Spanish Speaking Student

Teaches reading and writing skills to Spanish speaking students who have difficulty in comprehension and in written expression of the English language. Focuses on the development of listening habits, vocabulary development, sentence and paragraph comprehension, basic composition, and creative writing.

Writing

211 College Writing

Reviews the mechanics of standard written English. Emphasizes basic exposition, short-essay writing, and techniques essential for college-level writing. Develops cohesiveness, clarity, sense of audience, and syntactic fluency.

212 Advanced College Writing

Emphasizes developing library research skills, writing term papers and extended essays, and writing essay examinations.

University Experience

University Experience is a 1 credit course carried by the Learning Center but taught by the Educational Opportunity staff.

101-102 University Experience

Introduces students to functions and procedures of various University departments. Promotes awareness of standards required by various academic disciplines in the University. Discusses academic goals and ways individuals can achieve them. Sensitizes students to social issues which influence campus life, acquaints them with resources available to them when social problems arise.

Independent Study

Independent Study is available for variable credit in Reading, Mathematics and Writing. Permission of the instructor is required.

Communications Lab/Library

The Communications Lab/Library is a unique, multi-purpose facility, designed to provide services to students, faculty and community. The facility consists of a communications lab, which contains equipment and materials available for Learning Center instructors to incorporate into their instruction and for students to utilize independently. The complex also contains a library which houses professional materials, skills oriented materials, and subscriptions to several popular magazines and professional journals. It also contains a wide range of modern audio-visual instructional aids including video tape equipment. There are rooms for reading/study, conferences, tutor-tutee's sessions, audio tutorials, and small group seminars.

Tutoring

An important feature of the Learning Center is its walk-in tutoring program. Free tutoring is available daily in Reading, Mathematics and Writing. Students interested in tutoring should call the Learning Center for scheduled tutoring hours.



Teaching Assistantships

The Learning Center has available several assistantships for teaching which carry a \$3000 stipend with waiver of tuition. Appointments are for a ten-month period and require up to fifteen hours work per week. They are normally made for the academic year and are renewable.

Teaching assistants must be interested in dealing with the learning problems of college students from multi-ethnic and culturally diverse backgrounds. Experience and training in this area would be preferred but is not required, since rather intensive on-the-job training is provided. Teaching assistants should be flexible, innovative, diligent and responsive to supervision. And, of course, they should have proficiency in the areas in which they will be teaching. Applications are available upon request.

All requests for information should be directed to the:

Learning Center

364 Christopher Baldy Hall

State University of New York at Buffalo

Amherst, New York 14260

Telephone: (716) 636-2394,5,6

Title IX 'No person in whatever relationship with SUNYAB shall be subject to discrimination on the basis of age, color, national origin, race, religion or sex.'

The University Learning Center

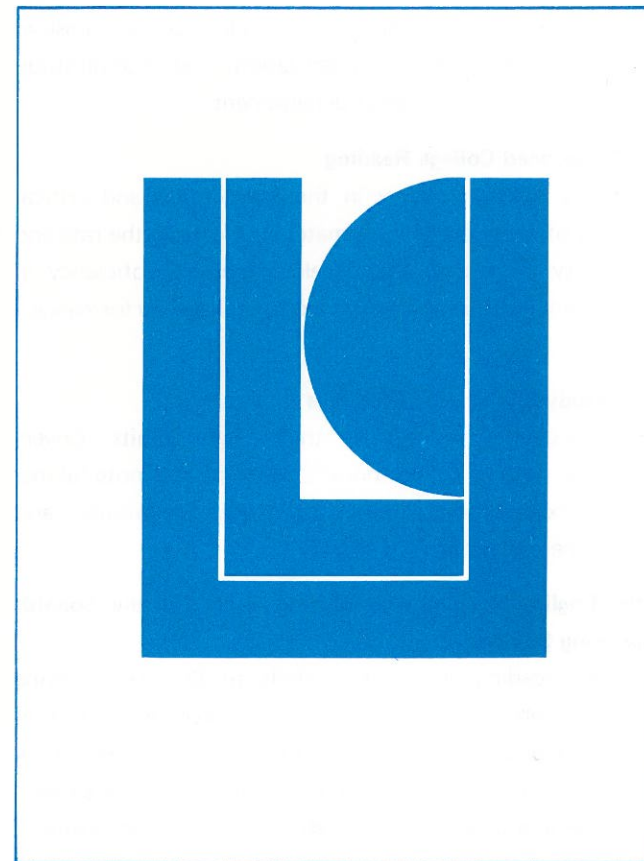
Faculty of
Educational Studies
State University of
New York at Buffalo

The University Learning Center

The Learning Center is a place where students can increase their competence in communication and study skills and in mathematics. Credit-bearing courses are offered in the following areas: reading comprehension and speed, study skills, oral communication, written composition, and mathematics.

Work in small classes is supplemented by regularly scheduled independent study in the communications laboratory, where assistants are available to provide any necessary help in using the diversified materials and equipment located there.

Learning Center courses and facilities are open to any student enrolled in the university. While courses carry regular academic credits, the Learning Center is not a degree-awarding program.



University Learning Center Instructional Components

Currently, there are three instructional components comprising the Learning Center: Reading, Writing, and Mathematics.

Mathematics

Basic courses offered by the Mathematics Component of the Learning Center fall into three areas: basic computation, college algebra, and trigonometry. Instruction in each of these three areas begins with the most elementary skills and progresses upward through increasingly more difficult levels of mastery. Laboratory sessions paralleling these courses are designed to provide reinforcement of learning.

Reading

The major emphasis of the Reading Component of the Learning Center is to increase the reading proficiency of university students in order to facilitate their academic achievement and to improve their study skills. Basic reading comprehension, critical reading, effective attack upon textbook materials, versatility in rate of reading, and vocabulary development are stressed.

Writing

Courses offered in the Writing Component of the Learning Center are planned to assist students in the development of effective written expression. Stress is placed on skills needed for writing essay-type examinations and term papers as well as on vocabulary expansion and precision in language usage.

WHAT IS IT?

Learning Center is the special services instructional component of the Division of Undergraduate Studies offering classes and individualized laboratory work in reading and study skills, writing, oral communication, mathematics and bilingual education.

Course description sheets are available at the Learning Center and from EPIS counselors.

WHO DOES IT SERVE?

Learning Center, through the UCE courses, now serves not only EPIS students, but all students in Equal Opportunity Programs and/or others who desire the services offered and who seek permission of the department.

EPIS students are particularly urged to take advantage of these opportunities for additional preparation and extension of skills.

Results of Intake testing of EPIS students are available to students through counselors as guides to course selection.

WHERE IS IT LOCATED

Learning Center is housed in expanded new quarters at 4230 Ridge Lea, Area B-6 and adjacent rooms. The new facilities include class areas and a large multi-media laboratory equipped with a wide range of print materials in book, card and programmed forms, tape cassette programs, filmstrips, reading machines, maps, transparency programs and related equipment to provide individualized instruction.

Included also are offices for the ten professional staff and 28 teaching assistants.

HOW DO I GET THERE?

The Ridge Lea Campus of SUNYAB is easily reached by the free shuttle bus leaving regularly from the stop at Diefendorf Annex. The ride is usually twelve minutes. Building 4230 is the long building on the left side of the exit road.

Ample parking is available for students driving directly to the campus on Ridge Lea Road.

HOW DO I REGISTER?

Registration for Learning Center courses, which carry university credit hours, is through the regular university computer registration system. The registration numbers and courses are listed in the REPORTER under Experimental Program in Independent Study and have the departmental prefix UCE. Students will note that most courses meet for two 80-minute classes and a minimum of two hours lab time (arranged), which must be included separately on the course request sheet.

IS THERE TUTORING SERVICE?

Tutoring in regular university courses is offered through the Learning Center. The Tutoring Center is in Townsend basement. The Tutoring Coordinator's office there and the EPIS office in 111 Townsend have applications. There is no charge.

Students are encouraged to apply early in the semester and to work consistently with the tutor in any subject which may prove difficult.

Learning Center Offers Assistance In Communication Skills & Math

By SUSAN A. CAMARDO
University Information Services

Since a student entering college has been subjected to a battery of aptitude tests and interviews prior to acceptance, he is expected to have a certain level of competency in mathematics and the communicative skills such as reading and writing. But what happens when a student gets to college and finds that he has a problem in one of these areas?

At U/B, the student can receive help from the Learning Center.

Established in 1971 as part of the Division of Undergraduate Studies, the Learning Center offers students credit-bearing courses in the basics of reading, writing, mathematics, and oral communication. Strictly Voluntary

Dr. Thomas Edwards, professor in the Department of Elementary and Remedial Education and director of the Center, explained that students attend the facility on a strictly voluntary basis. Last semester, about 220 took courses.

Dr. Edwards said, "Some of the students who come here need our services because they have been underachievers in high school. They often come to the University with an attitudinal problem, such as fear or lack of confidence. Our major job is to make them feel comfortable and accepted. We want students to see us as a bridge for a smoother transition into academic life. And we're succeeding—the students aren't afraid of the staff members here, and feel quite at home."

When a student comes to the Center, he is tested and assigned to the class level that best suits his need. (The Center presently offers two levels of reading courses, two of math, two of writing, and one of oral communication.) Classes are taught by 25 graduate student teaching assistants, and all methods of teaching are used.

An integral part of the Center is the Communications Laboratory, a resource library which includes reference books, tapes, reading pacers, television—any piece of resource equipment which will help the student learn his skills. The Center also has an Oral Communications Laboratory which uses videotapes, tape recorders, and other electronic equipment to teach student speaking skills.

The independent study aspect of learning is important at the Center, and reflects the individualized approach used. In addition to regular classroom work, teachers prepare individual prescriptions for each student in a class, and the student, aided by the Communications Lab staff, is encouraged to work on his own.

In addition to the teaching assistants, there are six senior staff members, headed by Dr. Edwards, who serve as coordinating instructors in the various skills, develop new ideas to improve instruction, supervise teaching assistants, and perform administrative functions.

Follow-up Studies

Although no formal follow-up studies have yet been done on students who have attended the Center, Dr. Edwards feels that it is successful. "When a student completes his course, we test his skills to see if he has gained mastery. And he usually has, because we accent on-going evaluation within courses. When a student begins studying here, he has certain educational objectives, and as he progresses in his course, he is regularly checked and is graded to see how he is fulfilling those ob-

jectives."

In the near future, Dr. Edwards hopes to conduct a series of comprehensive follow-up studies on former students perhaps by checking their grade point averages from semester to semester, especially in courses which would require skills learned at the Center.

The Learning Center actually began as part of the Educational Opportunity Program (EOP). When he came to U/B in 1970 as a professor of education, Dr. Edwards was also responsible for in-service training and coordination of teaching efforts in EOP. In summer, 1971, the instructional components of EOP were removed administratively and physically from the EOP structure, and the Learning Center was formed as a separate entity, with Dr. Edwards as its director. Although some students at the Center are referred there by EOP, Dr. Edwards stresses that the Learning Center is open to any University student who needs help in basic communication skills or mathematics.