

## Learning at Hillsborough Community College

As an institution focused on student learning, Hillsborough Community College offers a variety of learning options as alternatives to its strong traditional college program.

### Academic Support Centers

Academic support is located at centers throughout the college. Tutorial centers offering a wide variety of tutorial services are available at each campus. Writing centers are available at the Dale Mabry and Brandon Campuses to assist students with all English and Gordon Rule assignments. The Plant City Campus has a Success Center that provides academic support in several ways, including peer tutoring, access to an open computer lab, and study group areas.

### Communities of Learning

#### • Learning Communities

Learning communities are formed with groups of students sharing both similar academic interests and academic schedules. Students and faculty work together to form a community of learners sharing a common academic experience. Cohort scheduling, student work and study groups, interdisciplinary assignments, and extracurricular activities combine to create a unique and challenging academic experience.

#### • Service Learning

Service Learning is a teaching method that places a focus on learning through doing and thinking. While earning academic credit for the course, students perform a service in the community with an agency or program that has a partnership with the college. This applied approach to learning helps students gain a greater understanding of course content as well as an increased civic awareness.

#### • Supplemental Instruction

Supplemental instruction utilizes the talents and skills of students to act as peer tutors for selected sections of a variety of courses. SI tutors actually retake the courses with the students in the SI sections and work directly with the faculty members instructing those sections to create tutorials and support materials for students presently in the courses.

#### Computer Enhanced Instruction

Computer Enhanced Instruction combines assignments and tutorials constructed for the computer to create a self-paced instructional format for students.

#### eCampus/Distance Learning

The eCampus coordinates distance learning for the College. Telecourses and web-based instruction are available for a large number of courses to fit the needs of those students who cannot make it to campus or just to provide an alternative delivery method for others.



# ACADEMIC SUPPORT SERVICES

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## TUTORIAL CENTERS/SUCCESS CENTERS

Each of the four campuses provides peer tutoring services to students during regular college business hours. Any enrolled student is eligible for tutorial services. Peer tutors provide academic assistance to students across a broad spectrum of academic subjects including mathematics, science, English, economics, and accounting.

## SMARTTHINKING

The college provides SmartThinking, an on-line tutorial service, primarily for students who are enrolled in distance education courses; however, it is also available for other students who prefer an option to on-campus assistance. SmartThinking is available 24 hours a day allowing students to work synchronously, one-on-one via the Web with professional tutors to receive assistance with a variety of college courses including math, science, English, history, economics, humanities and others. ([http://www.hccfl.edu/ecampus/Spring\\_2005/smartinking.htm](http://www.hccfl.edu/ecampus/Spring_2005/smartinking.htm))

## WRITING CENTERS

In addition to tutorial services, writing centers designed specifically to help students improve their writing skills and meet college and state writing requirements are available at two campuses. ([http://www.hccfl.edu/writing\\_center/index.htm](http://www.hccfl.edu/writing_center/index.htm)) Students from all HCC campuses, however, are able to take advantage of the assistance of the writing centers.

## SUPPLEMENTAL INSTRUCTION

Supplemental Instruction (SI) pairs students with peers who provide tutorial help in courses that the tutors have already completed with a high grade. Supplemental Instruction tutors work directly with the faculty to create tutorials for currently enrolled students.

## COMPUTER LABS

The College provides computer labs in a variety of formats. For example, labs are dedicated to specific curricular areas, such as science, health sciences, and the preparatory curriculum in the areas of reading, writing and math. Such labs are integrated into the overall learning experience. Open labs are available as well and provide places for lab instruction or for students to complete their assignments or practice different computer skills, including preparing for state certification or licensing exams. Labs are staffed with lab assistants that are on hand to answer student questions, help with assignments, or troubleshoot computer problems.

## SERVICES FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

Students who have disabilities are provided accommodations by the Office of Services for Students with Disabilities to ensure their access to all academic programs. Students who require academic accommodations must self-identify and provide appropriate documentation to the Office of Services for Students with Disabilities at each campus.

## STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES PROGRAM

The federally-funded SSSP provides a variety of academic support services to eligible students. Upon acceptance into the SSSP, students participate in a number of intensive services such as one-on-one tutoring, personal and academic counseling, assistance with financial aid, assistance with transferring to a university, social and cultural enhancement programs.