Popular Weekly Tutoring Groups Program Near Capacity for S19

For the first time since its Spring ‘17 launch, the AEC’s popular Weekly Tutoring Groups (WTG) program has had to stop accepting new registrations at the mid-semester mark. The STEM-focused tutoring program, which has expanded the numbers of tutors and meeting times available in each semester since its inception, has enrolled 764 students in 184 groups in the first half of S’19 alone. The program is at capacity.

The WTG program will continue to try to place students who have already made requests into spaces within existing groups. Students seeking support for the first time in MTH, CHM, PHY, and BIO—the disciplines covered by nearly all of the current groups—are being encouraged to take advantage of the AEC’s drop-in centers. These centers are open between 2-7 pm every Monday through Thursday. Appointments are not required.

The WTG model has grown steadily over the past two years. A 2018 analysis of the program pilot published in the Learning Assistance Review found WTG participation correlated to significant, positive differences in course-based GPA outcomes and student self-efficacy.

AEC Makes a World of Study Help Available Online

New web page curates links to best videos, blogs, and articles

The AEC has launched a new web page as a step toward making Study Skills and Strategies support more accessible to students.

The page, uri.edu/aec/studyresources, links students to videos and documents under categories such as Notetaking and Note-making, Motivation and Procrastination, Focus and Distraction, and Planning Your Work. Items come from internet-based resources as well as original AEC-created content.

The goal, according to the AEC’s David Hayes, is to offer content that is research-based, easy to use, and appealing. “There is a ton of content out there”, Dr. Hayes explained, “but a lot of it is not particularly good. Years of teaching UCS 160 and doing academic coaching have taught us a lot about what students find useful and can learn from.”

The web page is just the first step in making study support more accessible, according to Dr. Hayes. The AEC will post a UCS 160 Curriculum Guide online this spring, and seek to create an online course next year.
Search for Fall ‘19 AEC Staff to Begin in April

The AEC will begin accepting applications later this month from students interested in tutoring or working as a receptionist. Tutoring positions will be available in Biology, Chemistry, Math, Physics, Cell and Molecular Biology, Economics, and Computer Sciences.

Applications for reception positions are encouraged to highlight any customer service experience and be highly organized.

Online applications will be made available through the RhodyNet powered by Handshake, site and on the Work at the AEC page on the AEC website. The AEC web page offers additional employment information, including position descriptions.

Applications will be reviewed at the end of the semester, and phone interviews will be conducted with selected applicants during the summer.

Strategic Studying Tips

Set a **Writing Center Deadline** to Reduce Procrastination and Stress

Research shows that people have a tendency to underestimate how long it will take them to do future tasks. This tendency, known as the Planning Fallacy, leads to work being rushed, stressful, and often underdeveloped.

Setting incremental deadlines is a powerful tool for reducing procrastination, and it’s also a great way to strengthen writing projects.

The strategy involves taking a given deadline for submitting a project, and marking one’s calendar with both the submission deadline and incremental deadlines such as a “final draft deadline” or “Writing Center deadline.” These deadlines then become the student’s target instead, creating a cushion of additional time and an opportunity for review with a tutor and revision.

**Plan your Writing Center Visit Now!**

Students with papers due near the end of the semester should plan their writing center appointments in advance to ensure that the help is available when they need. Writing Center visits are by appointment, and the schedule always fills at the busiest times of the year.

**TO LEARN ABOUT THE WRITING CENTER AND SET AN APPOINTMENT, VISIT URI.EDU/AEC/Writing**

Finish Strong with the AEC!

With finals just weeks away, here are the best ways for students to get AEC support in April:

**Help with planning, studying, and test-taking:**

Students seeking to improve studying and test taking skills can make a 1-to-1 appointment to work with David Hayes on identifying and addressing their needs. Dr. Hayes’ meeting hours are on Starfish, so students can set appointments on line.

**STEM tutoring:**

Weekly Tutoring Group registration period is over, but students seeking help in MTH, PHY, BIO or CHM are welcome in our Drop-in Tutoring Centers on the fourth floor in Roosevelt Hall. Hours are 2-7 pm, Monday-Thursday.

**Writing Help:**

Students can avoid the end-of-semester rush and visit uri.mywconline.com to set an appointment now. See below for additional advice.