

Supplemental Instruction (SI) FAQs

What is Supplemental Instruction (SI)?

- SI is a non-remedial academic support for historically difficult courses with high failure/withdrawal rates.
- SI sessions are peer-led group study sessions that focus on both “what to learn” and “how to learn”.
- SI sessions are voluntary, regularly scheduled outside of class, and available to all students in the course.
- SI Leaders, trained peers who have successfully completed the course with an A or B, plan and lead collaborative activities to ensure peer-to-peer interaction and meaningful discussion during SI sessions.

What are the benefits for students attending Supplemental Instruction?

- ALL students who attend SI regularly get better grades and need to spend less time studying on their own.
- FREE casual space to study, ask questions, make mistakes, and deepen understanding of the material.
- Make new friends and compare notes while developing new study skills and strategies.
- Save time and frustration by regularly participating in an organized and focused study group.

What happens during a typical SI session?

- Collaborate with other students to process difficult material from the course (SI is not a re-lecture).
- Interact with content in new ways, apply concepts, and break up tough material into understandable bits.
- Review for upcoming exams by sharing test-taking strategies and playing fun group games like Jeopardy.
- SI Leaders plan, facilitate, and organize time (so students only need to bring their notes to participate).

What are the similarities/differences between SI and other peer-led supports?

SI Leaders Academic Support SI@msudenver.edu	Tutors Academic Support Tutoring@msudenver.edu	Learning Assistants Academic Support LA@msudenver.edu	Peer Mentors Connect to Academic Supports RoadwaysPeerMentoring@msudenver.edu
SI Leaders are assigned to a specific course/faculty. They attend a designated class as a model student and provide support for other students during regularly scheduled SI sessions outside of class.	Tutors are assigned to specific courses, but not a specific section/faculty. They provide walk-in and scheduled one-on-one tutoring sessions during regularly-scheduled hours at designated Tutoring locations around campus.	Learning Assistants are assigned to a specific course/faculty. They provide support for students primarily during class, as well as office hours outside of class, based on class needs.	Peer Mentors help students find a community on campus to build their academic, social, and emotional support networks. All students are assigned a Peer Mentor as a resource and connection.
SI Leaders plan SI sessions based on challenging course content, faculty collaboration, and students’ needs.	Tutors prepare general content for one-on one and small group tutoring sessions and adapt to students’ needs.	Learning Assistants meet regularly with faculty to discuss upcoming activities and how they will be involved in the classroom.	Peer Mentors provide personalized support for individual students and plan group activities and events.
SI Leaders emphasize collaboration, discussion, student engagement, and ownership of learning – as well as how these skills can transfer to other courses.	Tutors emphasize individual study skills, organizational skills, and student ownership of learning.	Learning Assistants emphasize class participation, discussion, collaboration, student engagement, questioning techniques, and ownership of learning.	Peer Mentors help connect students to resources for various skills/needs and help promote ownership of learning.
BONUS: All these support services are FREE and can be used simultaneously by students!			

Supplemental Instruction (SI)

What courses have SI Leaders? When are SI sessions? Where can I find more info? How do students attend?

- To learn which sections have SI Leaders and the times/locations of SI sessions, visit our website:
 - [https://msudenver.edu/roadways/supplementalinstruction/.](https://msudenver.edu/roadways/supplementalinstruction/)
- SI Leaders will introduce themselves to the classes they support and will attend the class with students.
- No sign-up is needed; students find the time/location and then show up to the SI session to participate.
- Students benefit most from attending sessions regularly, but they are not required to attend all sessions.

2019 Fall SI-Supported Courses

BUSINESS

- ACC 2010: Principles of Accounting I
- ECO 2010: Principles of Macroeconomics

BIOLOGY

- BIO 1080: General Biology I
- BIO 2310: Human Anatomy & Physiology I

ENGINEERING

- CET 1215: Engineering Graphics
- CET 2150: Mechanics I – Statics
- EET 1150: Circuits II

CHEMISTRY

- CHE 1800: General Chemistry I
- CHE 1810: General Chemistry II

CHEMISTRY (continued)

- CHE 3100: Organic Chemistry I
- CHE 3110: Organic Chemistry II

MATH

- MTH 1120: College Trigonometry
- MTH 1210: Intro to Statistics
- MTH 1410: Calculus I
- MTH 2410: Calculus II
- MTH 2420: Calculus III

NUTRITION

- NUT 2040: Introduction to Nutrition

PSYCHOLOGY

- PSY 1001: Introductory Psychology
- PSY 2310: Introduction to Statistics for Social and Behavioral Sciences

Visit our website for details on SI Session times, locations, and which sections have assigned SI Leaders.

Supplemental Instruction is like exercising and eating vegetables for your grade!

Regular participation in SI sessions helps students' grades stay healthy in their course and prevents students from seeing their grades drop during the semester.

Supplemental Instruction

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