



FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY
DIVISION OF UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES



ACADEMIC CENTER FOR EXCELLENCE

ANNUAL REPORT

Summer 2019 - Spring 2020



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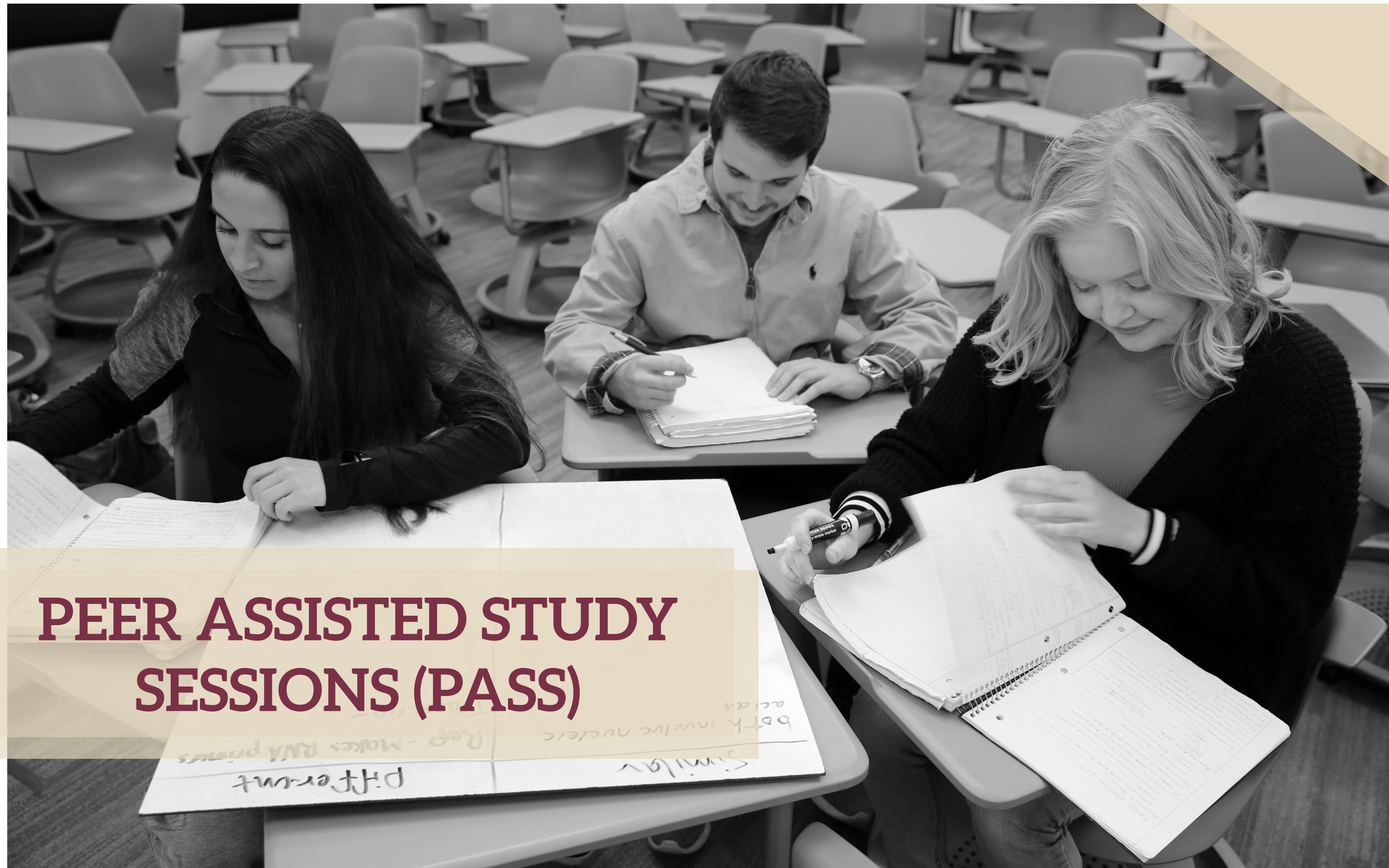
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SERVICES

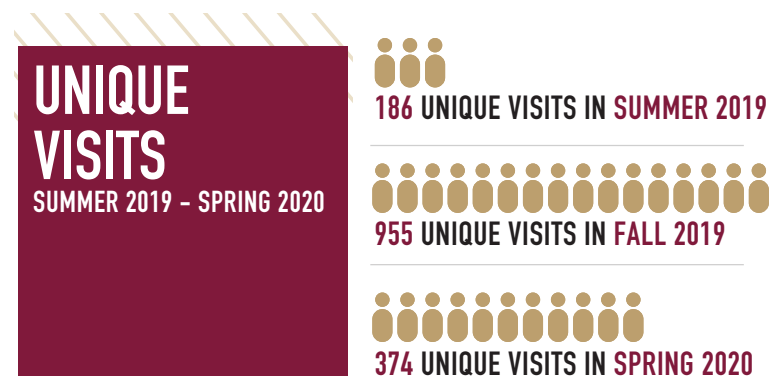




PEER ASSISTED STUDY SESSIONS (PASS)

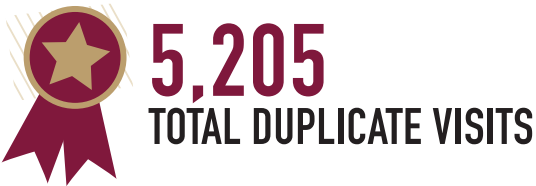
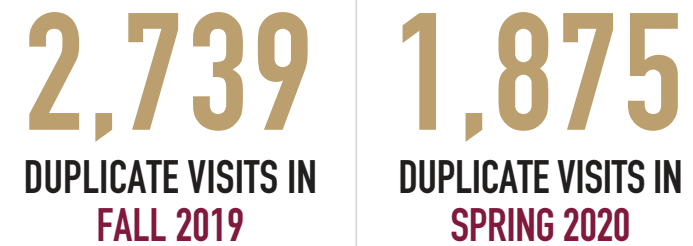
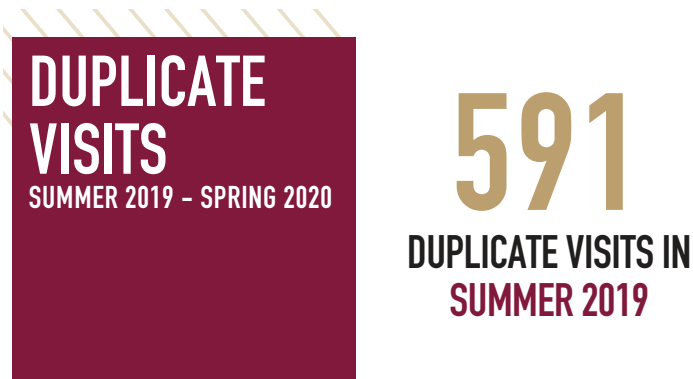
PASS

The Academic Center for Excellence (ACE) offered **Peer Assisted Study Sessions (PASS)** as a high impact program in selected undergraduate introductory courses required to enter specific majors that have been targeted as historically difficult at Florida State University (FSU). PASS Leaders, trained undergraduate students who previously and successfully completed the course, focused on the most challenging content of the course and gave students an opportunity to work collaboratively with their peers outside of class time in an effort to understand new concepts.



Attendance Frequency

Throughout the 2019-2020 school year (including Summer 2019) there were a total of 5,205 combined number of PASS visits, which represents a total of 1,515 students (unique). Fall 2019 had the highest number of visits (N = 2,739) in comparison to Summer 2019 (N = 591), and Spring 2020 (N = 1,875).



COURSES SUPPORTED BY PASS

TERM	PASS COURSE	PASS COURSE NAME
SUMMER 2019	BSC 2010	Biological Science I
	CHM 1045	General Chemistry I
	CHM 2211	Organic Chemistry II
FALL 2019	ACG 2021	Introduction to Financial Accounting
	BCH 4053	General Biochemistry I
	BSC 2011	Biological Science II
	CHM 2210	Organic Chemistry I
	CHM 2211	Organic Chemistry II
	ECO 2013	Principles of Macroeconomics
SPRING 2020	PCB 3134	Cell Structure and Function
	ACG 2021	Introduction to Financial Accounting
	BSC 2010	Biological Science I
	CHM 1045	General Chemistry I
	CHM 1046	General Chemistry II
	CHM 2210	Organic Chemistry I
	CHM 2211	Organic Chemistry II

PERSONAL ACADEMIC CONSULTATIONS



ACE offers undergraduate students an opportunity to meet **one-on-one** with an ACE instructor to review and make improvements to their study and personal success habits. These consultations, which are free and available to current FSU students, involve assessing a student's need and developing a plan of action for reaching the student's academic goals. Consultations are not intended as long-term coaching situations, but it is sometimes possible to schedule one or more follow-up meetings.



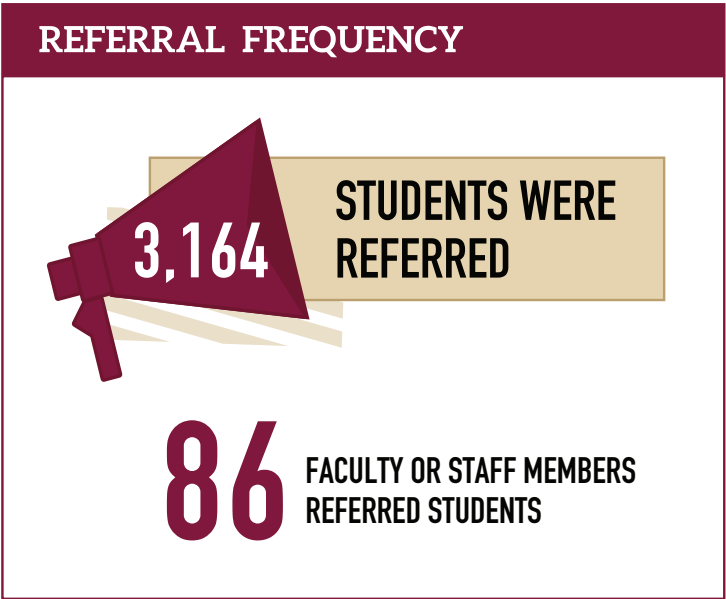
**PERSONAL ACADEMIC
CONSULTATIONS WERE CONDUCTED
BETWEEN SUMMER 2019 AND SPRING 2020**

PROACTIVE REFERRAL & ENGAGEMENT (PRE)




PRE

The FSU **Proactive Referral and Engagement (PRE)** program supports students experiencing academic challenge. When instructors submit referrals to PRE, faculty and staff reach out to selected students personally via email and phone. We attempt to address students' general academic needs, and may also refer students to academic departments, tutoring resources, or other student services for more specialized help. Included is an overview of program usage and outcomes for the 2019-2020 academic year.



COURSES SUPPORTED

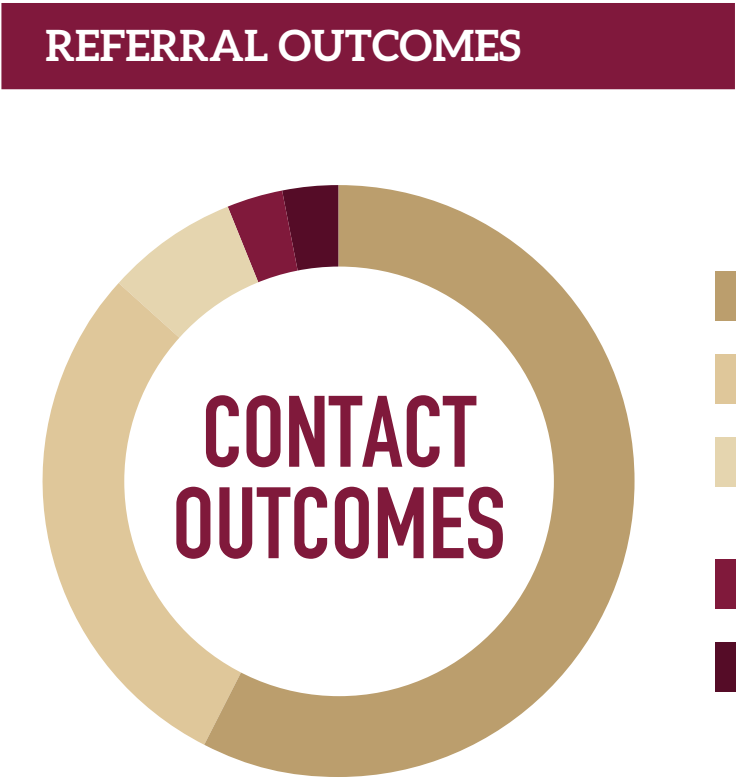


COURSES WITH 10+ REFERRALS

ACG-2071	ENC-2135
BSC-2010	MAC-1105
CHM-1045	MAC-1114
COP-3014	MAC-1140
COP-3363	MAC-2311
ECO-2013	MGF-1106
ECO-2023	SLS-3140

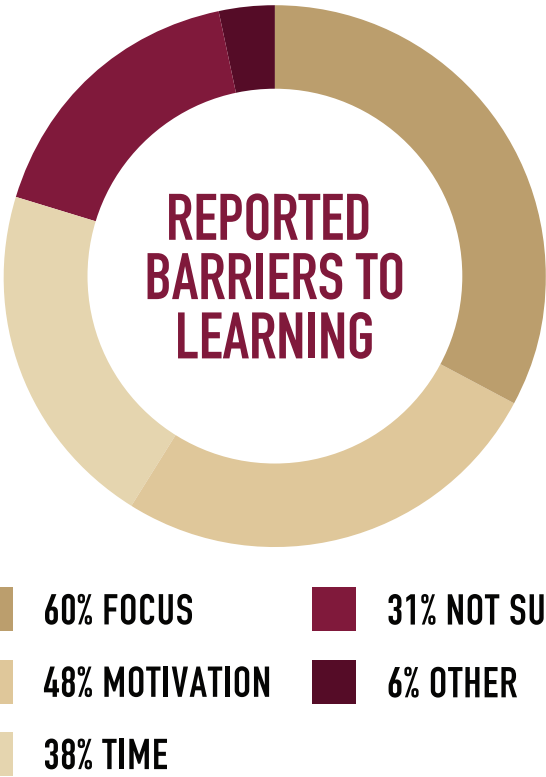
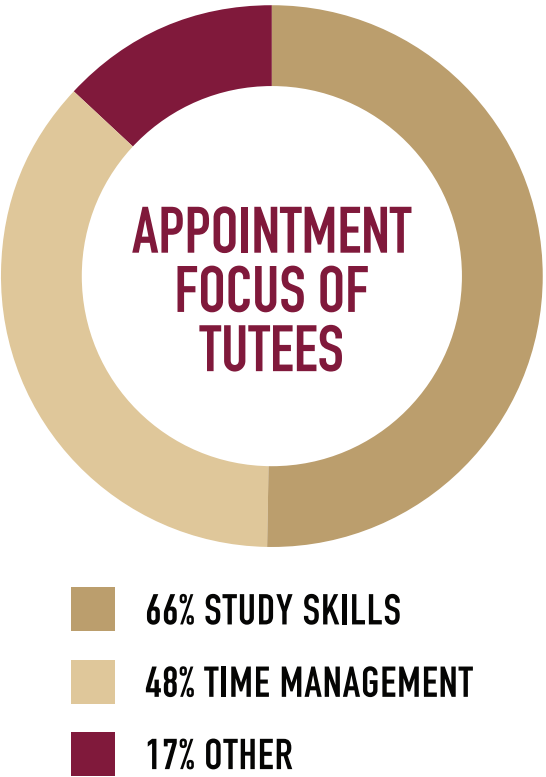
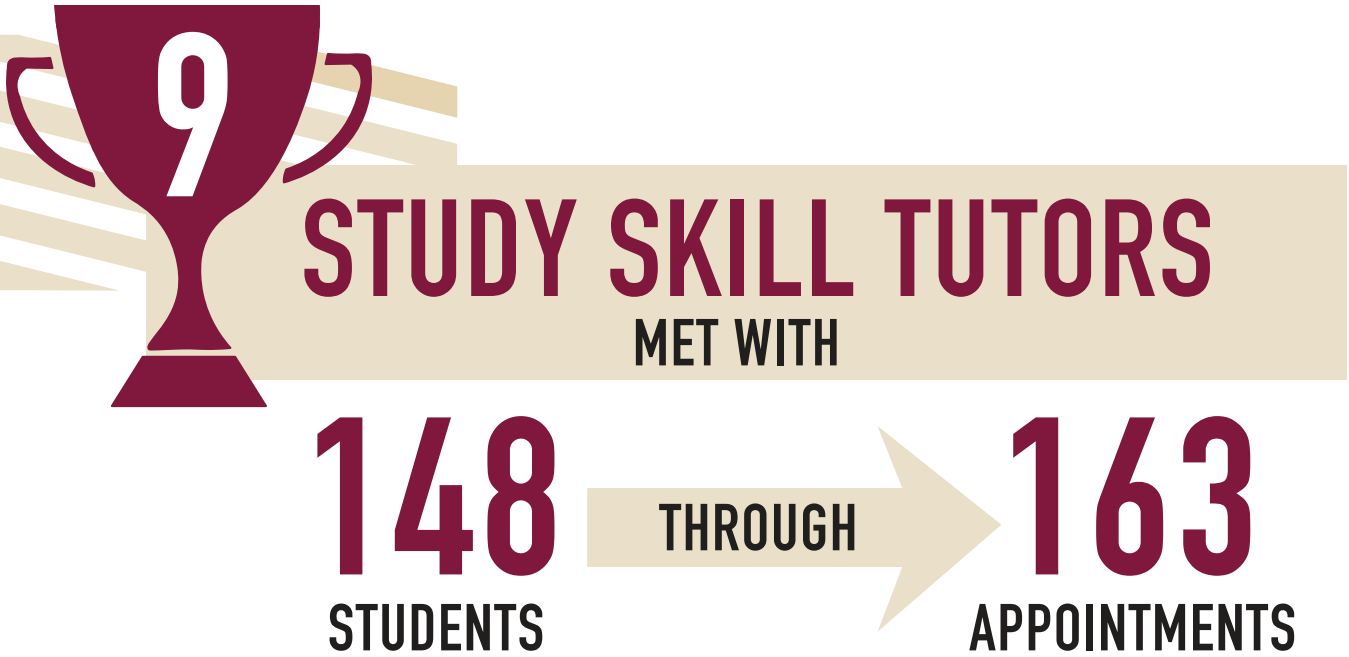
COURSES WITH 2-9 REFERRALS

COP-3330	ENC-3021	REL-3431
CRW-3311	ENG-2012	SLS-1122
DEP-3103	ENG-3310	SLS-3140
ENC-1101	MAC-2233	



STUDY SKILLS TUTORS:

Study skills tutors offer students assistance in a variety of areas, including strengthening time management skills, note taking tips, how to properly email professors and/or teaching assistants, as well as modifying study habits. Study skills tutoring is located alongside course-based tutoring in the Learning Studio by appointment. Appointments are typically 45 minutes long. The information included reflects data from the Summer 2019 - Spring 2020 semesters.





SLS COURSES

SLS COURSES

SLS1004

SLS1004 Strategies for Academic Success in STEM, first taught in 2018 as a 12-week 1 credit hour course is now a full 16-week semester course with growing enrollment. The course continues to focus on the development and application of study skills and learning strategies for STEM courses and valuable information about educational, research, and career opportunities. Assignments critical to building essential study skills for STEM courses are necessary for self-efficacy in STEM; activities designed to expose students to STEM career pathways are crucial for deciding future engagement in STEM; and STEM identity development through opportunities to interact with and listen to STEM professionals from diverse backgrounds helps bridge the gap between the image students have of themselves and the image they have of STEM professionals. Increasing diversity in STEM majors at FSU is a priority and we see this course as doing our part toward that end.

Quote from student, Spring 2020:

“I believe Dr. Golay and Dr. Stephenson used the slim amount of time provided for this course effectively through the power points used. The [study skills] power points gave direct information to the students along with her further explanation of the material. Another thing Dr. Stephenson did very well was introduce us to many guest speakers who spoke deeper into topics in the course.”

Dr. Patricia Golay from the Academic Center for Excellence and Dr. Adrienne Stephenson, the Director of the Office of Graduate Fellowships and Awards (The Graduate School), co-teach the course. Dr. Golay’s expertise is in designing study skills curriculum and Dr. Stephenson’s expertise is in Neuropharmacology and Toxicology. Together, they have created a program for students who are in STEM majors and those considering a STEM major. Dr. Golay believes more should be done to retain students in STEM. She states, “We want to stop the bleed of STEM students by preparing them for the rigors of their programs while simultaneously helping them forge their individual paths to success. This is one small effort in this regard.”

SLS1122

SLS1122 is a one-credit course designed to facilitate academic success and promote retention and graduation of students. The focus is on the development and application of college-level study skills and personal success strategies while also promoting campus resources. Any undergraduate student may take this course as an elective. Freshmen who earn less than a 2.0 GPA in their first fall semester at FSU are required to take this course.



**STUDENTS WERE TAUGHT BY ACE
FACULTY & ADJUNCT INSTRUCTORS
IN 23 SECTIONS OF SLS1122 FROM 2019-2020**

64%

**OF 2019 COHORT MEMBERS REQUIRED
TO TAKE SLS1122 IN THEIR FIRST YEAR
WERE IN GOOD ACADEMIC STANDING
BY FALL 2020**

77%

**OF 2019 COHORT MEMBERS REQUIRED
TO TAKE SLS1122 IN THEIR FIRST YEAR
WERE RETAINED TO THEIR
SOPHOMORE YEAR**



TUTORING

TUTORING

The **ACE Learning Studio** is the site of our course-based peer-tutoring program, where our undergraduate student tutors provide services to other FSU students in over 100 different courses. Peer tutoring is a process that supports student learning by strengthening a wide variety of educational skills. This includes time management, test-preparation, strategic reading, organization, mathematics, processing information, and skills specific to individual classes and majors. Our tutors receive training by completing our College Reading & Learning Association (CRLA) certified tutoring program.

COURSES & FREQUENCY

TOP FIFTEEN COURSES REQUESTED

#1 <u>CHM-1045</u>	#6 <u>CHM-1046</u>	#11 <u>MAC-2233</u>
#2 <u>CHM-2210</u>	#7 <u>STA-2023</u>	#12 <u>COP-3330</u>
#3 <u>MAC-1105</u>	#8 <u>COP-3014</u>	#13 <u>MAC-2312</u>
#4 <u>MAC-2311</u>	#9 <u>MAC-1140</u>	#14 <u>ACG-2021</u>
#5 <u>BSC-2010</u>	#10 <u>PHY-2048</u>	#15 <u>COP-3363</u>



3,346+
VISITS FOR TOP 15 COURSES
OUT OF 4,912 ONE-ON-ONE VISITS



ONE-ON-ONE STUDENT VISITS
691 IN SUMMER | 2,551 IN FALL | 1,670 IN SPRING

820

STUDENTS ATTENDED
MORE THAN ONE APPOINTMENT

104

DIFFERENT COURSES
ALONG WITH THE GRE EXAM
WERE TUTORED

1,664 **UNIQUE CONTACTS**
SUMMER 2019 - SPRING 2020

TUTORING

GROUP TUTORING:

ACE offers group tutoring for a variety of subjects, led by ACE tutors. These sessions help effectively answer student questions for a large number of students both before tests and weekly.

MOST HIGHLY ATTENDED COURSES

BY STUDENTS FROM 2019-2020

#1	<u>MAC-1140</u> 369	#6	<u>MAC-1114</u> 156
#2	<u>MAC-2233</u> 362	#7	<u>STA-2023</u> 107
#3	<u>MAC-1105</u> 322	#8	<u>MAC-2311</u> 101
#4	<u>MGF-1106</u> 239	#9	<u>CHM-1046</u> 72
#5	<u>CHM-1045</u> 173	#10	<u>CHM-2210</u> 72

1,275
UNIQUE CONTACTS
SUMMER 2019 - SPRING 2020

2,370
TOTAL CONTACTS
SUMMER 2019 - SPRING 2020

STUDENT COMMENTS

- The tutor explained everything very well! They really helped me understand what I needed to do.
- The tutor answered my questions and even asked leading questions to help me better understand, rather than just giving me the answer.
- I came in not understanding much and feel so much better about the concepts now.

TUTORING

MATH STUDIO:

ACE hosts weekly math help group sessions for MAC 1105, MAC1114, MAC1140, MAC2233, and occasionally for MAC2311, MAC2312, and MAC2313, based on demand. ACE also hosts extended math help group sessions prior to tests in the respective courses, and several group sessions leading up to and during Final Exam week.

On March 21, 2020, ACE’s tutoring services shifted to a virtual format due to the COVID pandemic. The Math Studio tutoring services transitioned to online appointment-based tutoring. In Spring 2020, ACE’s Math Studio had less than half the number of unique student visits in Spring 2019 (48%). There were 2543 unique visits in Spring 2019 and 1450 unique visits in Spring 2020.

FREQUENCY & COURSES

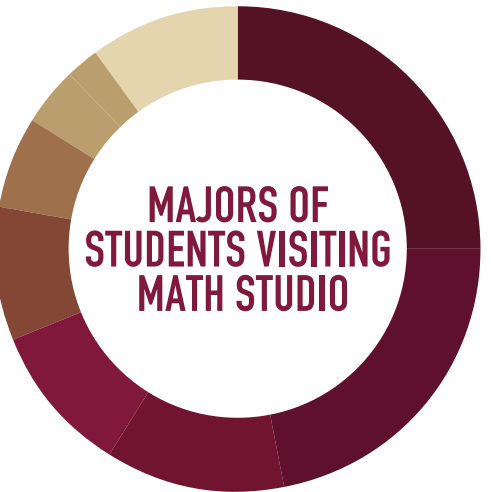
1,450
UNIQUE CONTACTS
SUMMER 2019 – SPRING 2020

4,386
TOTAL CONTACTS
SUMMER 2019 – SPRING 2020

STUDENTS SERVED
SUMMER 2019 – SPRING 2020



- 28% MATH HELP
- 16% MAC-2311
- 15% MAC-1140
- 10% MAC-2233
- 10% MAC-1105
- 8% MAC-1114
- 7% MAC-2312
- 2% MGF-1106
- 2% MAC-2313
- 1% OTHER
- 0.3% MGF-1107



- 25% BUSINESS
- 22% SCIENCE
- 12% SOCIAL SCIENCE
- 10% ENGINEERING
- 9% HEALTH
- 6% COMPUTER SCIENCE
- 4% MATHEMATICS
- 2% EXPLORATORY
- 10% OTHER



MATH TUTORS HIRED FROM
FALL 2019 – SUMMER 2020




WORKSHOPS

WORKSHOPS

ACE offers workshops designed to provide students with an interactive opportunity to learn about and develop the academic skills and personal attributes needed to be successful at the college level.

WORKSHOP TITLE	PARTICIPANTS
★ CIVIC LITERACY EXAM PREPARATION	57
LOVE AT FIRST SIGHT	9
GENERAL KNOWLEDGE (GK) REVIEW SESSION	6
GET READY FOR THE GMAT	1
GET READY FOR THE GRE	24
GET READY FOR THE LSAT	24
LEAPING OFF THE PAGE	16
HOW TO GET THE BEST LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION	7
★ HOW TO GET CONTROL OF YOUR TIME	54
WRITE YOUR WRONGS	5
MAKING NOTES (NOT TAKING THEM!)	24
★ STRATEGIES FOR TEST PREPARATION	29
WRITING A PERSONAL STATEMENT	10

★ **MOST POPULAR WORKSHOPS:**
CIVIC LITERACY EXAM PREPARATION
HOW TO GET CONTROL OF YOUR TIME
STRATEGIES FOR TEST PREPARATION

 **266**
TOTAL STUDENT PARTICIPANTS
SUMMER 2019 – SPRING 2020

AMONG 41 WORKSHOPS STUDENTS...

*NOT INCLUDING CANCELLED OR ZERO ATTENDANCE WORKSHOPS

94%

“STRONGLY AGREE” OR “AGREE”
THAT THEY WILL BE ABLE TO USE
WHAT THEY LEARNED IN THE WORKSHOP

94%

“STRONGLY AGREE” OR “AGREE”
THAT THE WORKSHOP MET
THEIR EXPECTATIONS

STUDENT COMMENTS

“I though this presentation was incredible! I love how the tutor went about teaching. This workshop was extremely informational, and I am now confident in my ability to study for this exam.”

“This workshop gae me some great information on citations that I was not familiar with and provided a great starting point.”

“Awesome workshop! It gave me a lot of things to think about in my pursuit for letters of recommendation.”

RETENTION COHORT TRENDS



FTIC COHORT RETENTION USING ACE SERVICES 2012-2020

	Cohort Retention Rate	Retention Rate of Cohort Members using ACE
2012-2013:	91.7%	90.4%
2013-2014:	92.2%	93.3%
2014-2015:	93.2%	94.6%
2015-2016:	93.0%	94.6%
2016-2017:	93.4%	95.0%
2017-2018:	93.0%	96.0%
2018-2019	93.0%	98.0%
2019-2020:	95.0%	96.0%

7,106 students were in the 2019 **First-Time-in-College (FTIC)** cohort. Of those 2,220 2019 FTIC cohort students who used the Learning Studio services, 96% were enrolled full-time (12 credits) for the Fall 2020 semester.

STUDENT USAGE & TECHNOLOGY

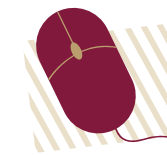
STUDY ROOM USE



6,686
TOTAL VISITS
SUMMER 2019 - SPRING 2020

1,256
UNIQUE STUDENT
CONTACTS

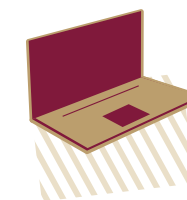
COMPUTER & OPEN STUDY AREA USE



1,761
TOTAL VISITS
SUMMER 2019 - SPRING 2020

809
UNIQUE STUDENT
CONTACTS

TECH USE (LAPTOPS, PROJECTORS, ETC.)



363
TOTAL VISITS
SUMMER 2019 - SPRING 2020



ROBERT D. BROOKS ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT AWARD



ROBERT D. BROOKS 2019 RECIPIENT:

The **Robert D. Brooks Academic Achievement Award** is a one-time, \$250 scholarship awarded to an FSU student who completed SLS1122 and demonstrated that the course had significant impact on his or her academic life here at FSU. The 2019 Robert D. Brooks Academic Achievement Award recipient was Shekinah Erinac. Shekinah is a junior criminology major pursuing the field of law. She plans to serve as a public defender for low income individuals with a long term goal of being a Supreme Court justice.



“All in all, taking SLS 1122 not only improved my grade point average, but it improved how I looked at school, what I did to succeed, and my overall confidence in my college career.”

-Shekinah Erinac

