

# Center for Student Success

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**The Center for Student Success** houses programs that help students achieve college readiness, develop essential academic success skills, and strategically plan their path to graduation. In addition, the Center coordinates academic elements of the Javelina First-Year Experience, including the First-Year Seminar, and the Javelina Read. It provides a home for the Academic Advising of all undergraduate students. It is committed to creating a learner-centered environment, and offering programs designed to enhance student success in and out of the classroom. These programs include Academic Career Literacy, Academic Tutoring, the University Writing Center, Supplemental Instruction, and Peer Mentoring. All Center for Student Success programs are enhanced with AVID (Advancement Via Individual Determination) high impact strategies.

## Curriculum

### First-Year Experience Classes

The Center for Student Success offers UNIV 1201, a one-semester course designed to introduce students to the Javelina experience. Students will learn listening and note taking strategies; become familiar with campus support networks; improve financial literacy skills; and learn how to utilize our online learning platforms. Additionally, students will read a novel that will be used in class to engage them in conversations about diversity and ethics, and to improve their critical thinking and communication skills.

### Retention Services

The Center for Student Success programs are designed to support students as they develop their academic, personal, and leadership skills. The following programs develop, enhance, and enrich the undergraduate experience and while doing so, positively impact student retention and persistence to graduation.

### Academic Advising

The Center for Student Success personnel evaluate the academic background of incoming freshmen and assess student readiness for college course work. These advisors work with students to define and develop realistic goals, help students recognize their abilities and interests, identify any special needs, and/or match students to available resources that may be required to aid in their journey to be successful. All students are encouraged to meet with their advisors on a regular basis to monitor their progress toward their educational and career goals. Advising provides a linkage between academic preparation and career goals.

### Supplemental Instruction

Supplemental Instruction (SI) provides a series of weekly review sessions for students taking historically difficult courses. Each SI section is guided by an undergraduate SI leader, a peer mentor who has previously taken the course and has received training in note-taking, study skills, and test-taking strategies.

### Pathways Academic Assistance Center

The Pathways Academic Assistance Center, located in the Jernigan Library Room 220, provides tutoring to students needing assistance in their courses.

### University Writing Center

The University Writing Center, located in the Jernigan Library Room 217, collaboratively assists students in all stages of the writing process, from generating ideas to editing and proofreading. Students can work with peer writing consultants by appointment either in person or online.

### Graduation Pathways Success Center

Peer mentors assist students and respond to specific questions regarding course content while assisting in the development of successful study skills and test-taking strategies in key courses.

## Department Faculty

**Arias, Roberto** Lecturer I, Center for Student Success; B.S., Texas A&M University-Kingsville; M.S., Texas A&M University-Kingsville.

**Bustamante, Diana** Lecturer I, Center for Student Success; B.A., Texas A&M University-Kingsville; M.S., Texas A&M University-Kingsville.

**Gonzalez, Laura** Lecturer I, Center for Student Success; B.A., The University of Texas at Rio Grande Valley; M.S., The University of Texas at Rio Grande Valley.

**Hennessey, Patricia** Lecturer II, Center for Student Success; M.A., Rhode Island College.

**Singer, Svetlana** Lecturer I, Center for Student Success; B.A., Moscow State University (Russia); M.S., Texas A&M University-Kingsville.

## **University Learning (UNIV)**

### **UNIV 1101** Learning in Global Context I **1 SCH (0-2)**

A student success lab, designed to enhance the opportunity for success of first-year students. In-depth analysis and application, extended readings, internet assignments, class discussion, and consistent student interaction and feedback concerning course content.

### **UNIV 1102** Learning in Global Context II **1 SCH (0-2)**

A continuation of UNIV 1102. Designed to enhance the opportunity for success of first-year students. In-depth analysis and application, extended readings, internet assignments, class discussion, and consistent student interaction and feedback concerning course content. Prerequisite: UNIV 1101.

### **UNIV 1201** Learning in Global Context **2 SCH (2-0)**

A course designed to enhance the opportunities for success of first-year students through analysis, application, reflection, discussion, and interaction.