

SUCCESS

UMKC Academic Support
and Mentoring

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 2 ISSUE 3 | JAN 2021



SPRING HAS SPRUNG FOR ASM SERVICES

The Spring 21 term is off to a great start! See information below regarding each of ASM's services.

Supplemental Instruction. SI is organized group study led by a near peer. SI sessions launched online for the first two weeks of the spring term, and will be evaluated at that time to determine if any sessions may be offered in-person. For a complete list of courses supported by SI and session times, visit the [SI Sessions Schedule webpage](#).

UMKC Tutoring. UMKC Tutoring has been open for appointments on Zoom starting January 19. Drop-in sessions on Zoom (no appointment required) became available starting January 25. A full list of courses supported by UMKC Tutoring can be found on the [UMKC Tutoring Supported Courses webpage](#).

ABOUT ASM

UMKC's department of Academic Support and Mentoring (ASM) offers a wide range of services and programs to help students meet their academic goals. Services available through ASM include the Writing Studio, Supplemental Instruction, Tutoring, and Roo Up Seminars. ASM also provides programming and resources for Summer Bridge Scholars, First Gen Roo, Jumpstart KC, and Trustees' Scholars.

ASM's **mission** is to provide innovative support services and resources to ensure educational access and personal success for every student. Our **vision** is that every UMKC student persists and graduates with the personal and professional skills to achieve their vision of success. Learn more about ASM on our website at www.umkc.edu/asm.



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ASM SERVICES SPRING 2021 (CONTINUED)

Writing Studio. The Writing Studio supports undergraduate and graduate writers across all courses at UMKC, as well as with personal projects. Visit the [Writing Studio webpage](#) for more information about services, which started January 19.

Roo Up Seminars. Roo Up Seminars are brief informational videos on topics relevant for student success such as creating a study plan, note-taking and success in an online course. Roo Up Seminars are housed on Canvas, and accessible to any UMKC student, staff, or faculty member with an SSO. Learn more about seminars or enroll in the Canvas page on the [Roo Up Seminars webpage](#).

A WARM WELCOME

The Academic Support and Mentoring department is pleased to introduce our newest team member, **Kori Martiny**. Kori joined the team in late November as ASM's Student Support Specialist with responsibilities for a variety of functions across the department including scheduling, marketing, and supervising our Office Assistant student staff. Kori replaced Laura M. King who was promoted to coordinate UMKC Tutoring.

I'm a proud UMKC alum -- I graduated in May of 2020 with a degree in Communication Studies. As a student, I struggled to decide what careers align well with my passions and strengths in life. I was a student employee within a few different departments at UMKC, and I credit those positions as my inspiration for beginning a career in higher education. As ASM's Student Support Specialist, what most excites me about my role is the versatility of projects I get to work on. I quickly came to love that no two days in the office are the same for me. If you're interested in following some of the work I'm doing within ASM, follow us on our social media platforms!



ASM BY THE NUMBERS: FALL 2020

10,662 SI, UMKC Tutoring, and Writing Studio sessions provided.

3,476 unique students served through SI, UMKC Tutoring and Writing Studio.

562 students enrolled in the Roo Up Seminars Canvas site.

FIRST GEN ROO JOINS ASM

ASM is excited to announce that effective Spring 2021 First Gen Roo has transitioned from the College of Arts and Sciences to the Academic Support and Mentoring Department.

First Gen Proud. We invite all UMKC first-generation faculty, staff, alumni, and current students to join the First Gen Proud Registry. Allies who are not first-generation themselves, but want to support first-generation students, are also invited to show their support by joining the registry.

[First Gen Proud Registry](#)

First Gen Roo Scholars. The First Gen Roo Scholars Program is designed for incoming, full-time first-generation freshmen students. UMKC defines a first-generation college student as any student whose parents or guardians did not receive a bachelor's degree in the United States. Scholars who are accepted into this program are invited to participate in a week-long summer experience prior to the fall semester and receive continued supported by a First Gen Peer Mentor in the fall semester.

[First Gen Roo Scholars Webpage](#)

FEATURED FIRST GEN STUDENTS

Two first-generation UMKC students were recently featured in the blog post *The Impact of Family Support on the First-Generation College Experience*, published by The Center For First-Generation Student Success.

[Read the blog post!](#)

LISTENING TO THE STUDENT VOICE

In addition to soliciting feedback from students throughout the semester, ASM surveys all participants at the end of each term. These are a few comments made by students regarding their experiences this past fall:



“SI has been really helpful for picking up the most important ideas in the material as well as small details that I might get tested over but disregarded initially. I’ve done better on my tests and understood the material in more depth because of SI, so I would definitely recommend it.”

“Writing Studio was extremely helpful for figuring out the best ways to structure and word essays to make them extremely effective.”

“UMKC Tutoring was good for me because it really helped me prepare for my upcoming exams. My scores increased a letter grade because of it, so I would recommend it to others so their grades can increase as well.”

“I would recommend the Roo Up Seminars because they have a lot of information about, not just campus, but other resources that are helpful like scholarships and how to pay for college.”

“The SI Leaders were welcoming, kind, and very knowledgeable on the topic. They were always willing to answer questions and worked hard to make everyone feel included.”

“I was able to read over my paper with a Writing Studio consultant. Together we were able to identify things that needed work and change them. It was truly a collaborative process and super helpful!”

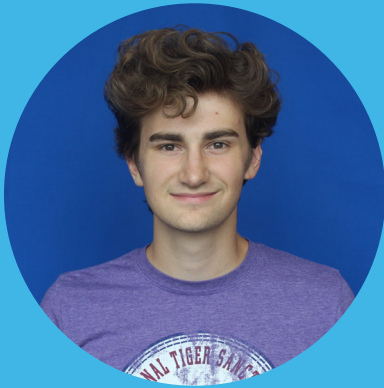
“I definitely recommend UMKC Tutoring. All their tutors are very patient, helpful, and understanding. They work with students at all levels. They take the time for the students to understand the concept and provide helpful tips as well.”

“Roo Up Seminars are a nice resource to have and I like how accessible it is since it’s through Canvas.”

“SI helps students focus their studying on especially relevant course material. It also helps form connections with others in the class. Supplemental Instruction is a great resource because it is also very casual.”

“The (consultants) at (The Writing Studio) helped me find my voice and were instrumental in helping me get through some challenging assignments.”

ASM STUDENT EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT



Adam Cárdenas Sisk has been working in ASM for two and a half years as an SI Leader and Peer Mentor, as well as one and a half years as a UMKC Tutor. Adam is a senior, pursuing a major in Spanish with minors in Latinx/Latin American Studies, Communications, and Biology. He's involved in UMKC's Latinx Student Union and University Theatre Association. He is also an Honors Discussion Leader for Spanish Courses 221+ and an Undergraduate Research Assistant. Adam currently tutors for Spanish 110, 120, 211 and 221.

I love my roles in both SI and Tutoring because not only do I get to help students and learn just as much from them as they might learn from me, but my ASM roles have also helped me feel more connected and involved on campus.

UMKC PEER MENTORING

This spring several peer mentoring programs across campus are uniting their efforts to recruit, hire, and train UMKC Peer Mentors. New for Spring 2021, nominations by faculty, advisors, and staff will connect engaged students with the opportunity to apply for up to seven Peer Mentor Programs through one application: African Americans Cultivating Excellence (AACE), Avanzando, Peer Academic Leaders (PALs), First Gen Roo Scholars, Honors Older Wiser Learners (OWLs), Honors Ambassadors, and Summer Bridge Scholars. Read the [UMKC Peer Mentoring Programs Overview \(PDF\)](#) to learn more about these programs.

Please consider taking a moment to complete a nomination form that will allow you to nominate up to 10 students. If you would like to make additional nominations, please complete the form a second time. **The deadline for nominations is Monday, February 8, 2021 at 5:00PM. Submit your nominations via the [nomination Google form](#).** Students will be able to access the common application starting February 1, 2021 by visiting the [UMKC Peer Mentoring hiring website](#).

If you have any questions about any of the programs participating in UMKC Peer Mentoring, please email peermentoring@umkc.edu.


SUMMER BRIDGE SCHOLARS PROGRAM GOES HYBRID

Recruitment is underway for the 2021 Summer Bridge Scholars cohort, with a goal of at least 40 students participating. The Summer Bridge Scholars program provides an academically rigorous summer experience to incoming first-year college students to prepare them for a successful college career at UMKC.


This year's hybrid model will include both virtual and face to face experiences, if deemed safe to do so. The first three weeks of the eight week program will be held online as scholars participate in interactive activities to assist in building their academic skills, build connection with peers, and develop comfort accessing UMKC and community resources. After successfully completing the first three weeks of online programming, scholars will be invited to move to campus and enroll in at least four credit hours of coursework.

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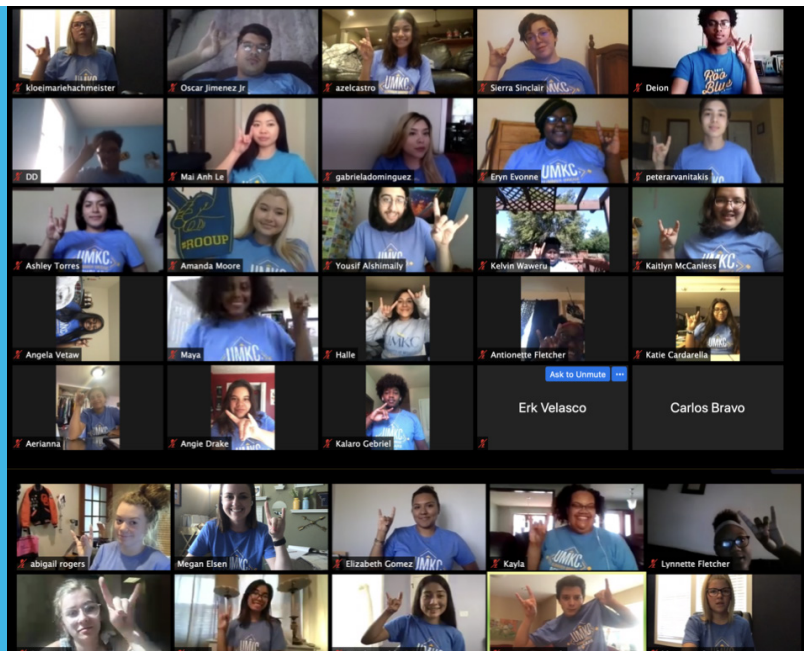
Summer Bridge Scholars, Roo Up Seminars and First Gen Roo

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2020 Summer Bridge Scholars enjoyed celebrating Roo Blue Friday via Zoom.



JUMPSTART JUMPS TO VIRTUAL

COVID-19 required Jumpstart to adapt their programming plans for the 2020-2021 school year. During the 2020-2021 program year, Jumpstart Corps Members (college students) are engaging preschool children virtually. By offering virtual programming in which Jumpstart Corps Members connect with children live via online tools, Jumpstart continues to contribute to children’s oral language development while providing a constancy of care and reducing feelings of social isolation. While the venue shifted this year from in-person to online, the goals of our virtual programming remain true to Jumpstart’s mission to ensure children enter kindergarten prepared to succeed. In the virtual space, Corps Members are providing children with high-quality, developmentally appropriate experiences, and supportive interactions. Jumpstart’s virtual programming consists of live interactive sessions with preschool children, creation of educational YouTube videos, and distribution of literacy kits to children in the Kansas City community.



Jumpstart KC leadership, Silvina Munita and Marcel Wilson, hold a group training with several of UMKC’s Jumpstart Corps Member volunteers. Corps Members learned how to prepare for and implement the new virtual programming using children’s books, puppets, and variety of other tools.