

Student Academic Support

Writing, Learning, Library, and Technology Services



Writing and Learning Support:

The Student Learning Commons (SLC) offers one-to-one consultations (booked and drop in) and workshops on a wide range of academic writing, grammar, and learning topics and concerns. These include writing strong introductions and conclusions, effective paraphrasing, self-proofing and editing, planning a writing project, exam preparation, study skills, note-taking, time management - and much more. Visit the SLC web site at <http://learningcommons.sfu.ca/> for links to consultation and workshop registration, as well as an extensive collection of handouts, streaming videos, and other strategies and tools.

Workshops: <http://workshops.learningcommons.sfu.ca/workshops>

Handouts: <http://learningcommons.sfu.ca/tools/handouts-tips>

Consultations: <http://learningcommons.sfu.ca/services/consultations/information>



Library Research Support:

Effective library and information research depends on knowing how to search the library catalogue and specialized databases, understanding when - and when not- to use tools such as Google and Wikipedia, developing frames of reference to evaluate search results and information sources, and creating systems to manage search results. The SFU Library offers a variety of skill-building and support services for students, including library research skills classes, extensive subject research guides, RefWorks citation management software, and in person and online assistance.

Workshops: <http://www.lib.sfu.ca/help/tutorials/lib-skills>

Subject Guides: <http://www.lib.sfu.ca/help/subject-guides>

Refworks: <http://www.lib.sfu.ca/my-library/refworks>

Ask A Librarian: <http://www.lib.sfu.ca/help/ask-us/>



Technology Support:

Many students are very comfortable with the technology they use on a regular basis, such as Facebook and other social networking tools, instant messaging and texting, and computer gaming. University courses, however, require students to work effectively with course management software such as WebCT, prepare presentations using PowerPoint, manage statistics and projects with Excel, and format papers correctly using Word, to name only the common tools.

Campus IT, the Library and the SLC work together to offer SFU students online and in-person support for standard academic computing tools: WebCT, MS Office products, and SFU Connect. Online help includes extensive "self serve" information, as well as live help via phone and chat.

Technology Support for Students: <http://learningcommons.sfu.ca/services/technology>



Student Learning Commons

• Burnaby • Surrey • Vancouver - learningcommons.sfu.ca

SFU Library

• Burnaby • Surrey • Vancouver - www.lib.sfu.ca



Graduate Students:

The Student Learning Commons offers workshops, consultations, and other services specifically tailored for graduate students. See the entire suite of services, including the Read Ahead service for intensive and extended writing support, at <http://learningcommons.sfu.ca/services/graduate-students>.



Faculty input and participation welcome!

We are very interested in hearing from faculty and other instructors about student writing, learning, and library research challenges - and very pleased if you are interested in suggesting or presenting workshops under the SLC or Library "umbrella".

The SLC Coordinators and the SFU Librarians also work with faculty and other instructors to tailor writing, learning, or library research strategy workshops, presentations, and handouts for individual courses or programs. The SLC Coordinators can be found at <http://learningcommons.sfu.ca/services/contact/slc-staff>, and the Librarians at <http://www.lib.sfu.ca/help/liaison-librarians>.

FYI - See <http://learningcommons.sfu.ca/services/about/projects-reports> for information about some ambitious "integrated" programs, and <http://learningcommons.sfu.ca/services/about/facts-feedback> for comments from faculty and students about a variety of SLC activities.