

Peer Mentoring and Tutoring

Keeping self-identified Earth Science enthusiasts and star performers engaged and learning by having them work with, help, and inspire current students.

Presented by *Katryn Wiese City College of San Francisco*



BECOME A MENTOR



Lab Aides and Study Session Coordinators

If you're interested in increasing your Earth Science expertise, you have received As in your CCSF Earth Science classes, and you would like to help our current students be more successful in our classes, consider being a Lab Aide or mentor.

[Mentoring Guidelines and Instructions](#)

For more information or to become a mentor during Fall 2010 or Spring 2011, contact [Katryn Wiese](#)

Please subscribe to our e-mail list for information on department events, job postings, field trips, and study session information. E-mail [Katryn Wiese](#) with the message **subscribe earthsciencementors** in the subject line. No need for any other text.

WHAT IS A **STUDY SESSION**?

Times and places when students from a particular class can study together. The intention is that students use these study sessions to help succeed in the class, by reviewing material, studying for exams and quizzes, and practicing in-class material. Prepare ahead by reading your textbook, reviewing your notes, and identifying the specific areas in which you need help, practice, or review.



FALL 2010 OPEN STUDY HALLS

(may not contain leaders with knowledge of your subject – but feel free to come work with your fellow students):

MONDAY	9 - 9:30 am (ANIMA)	12:30 - 2 pm (WIESE)	5 - 6 pm (HESS/GRANDY)
TUESDAY	9 - 9:30 am (WIESE)	12:30 - 2 pm (WIESE)	
WEDNESDAY	9 - 9:30 am (ANIMA)	12:30 - 2 pm (WIESE)	5 - 6:00 (WIESE/HESS/ANIMA)
THURSDAY	9 - 9:30 am (WIESE)	12:30 - 2 pm (WIESE)	
FRIDAY		11 am - 12 pm (HESS)	

LEADERS PRESENT AT THESE TIMES:

Geography Lecture

To be determined in the first few weeks of the semester

Geography Lab

To be determined in the first few weeks of the semester

Geology Lecture

To be determined in the first few weeks of the semester

Geology Lab

To be determined in the first few weeks of the semester

LEADERS PRESENT AT THESE TIMES:

Oceanography Lecture

To be determined in the first few weeks of the semester

Oceanography Lab

To be determined in the first few weeks of the semester

WHAT DOES A **STUDY SESSION COORDINATOR** DO?

Encourage group work among students of the same class

Tutor on content

Advise students on best ways to study and deal with course policies

Act as confidante to students scared to approach instructor

Guide students through best practices for success in a class



WHAT DOES A **LAB AIDE** DO?

Lab aides are teaching assistants for labs – they interact during the lab with the students to answer questions and help with equipment.

They act as tutor, assistant, and mentor, when students are challenged by the entire concept of lab.



Program goals:

- Help struggling students be more successful in the class (higher grades and better all-around experience and attitude) without dropping standards or expectations
- Help continuing students (majors and enthusiasts) strengthen their understanding of material and build their confidence in themselves
- Save instructors time and patience in overcrowded overworked labs.



Key Program elements:

- Instructors identify possible candidates
- Students are encouraged to sign up for next semester
- Some students are paid – others are volunteer (funded through campus peer-mentoring grants) – note: most paid students don't really care about the \$ anyway – they are grateful for the one-on-one with instructors and the boon to their resume/applications/future recommendations
- Guidelines are developed, but mostly there's a lot of one-on-one mentoring between instructors and mentors – that's then passed along to students
- Mid-semester and end-of-semester pizza parties/pow wows + group field trips (in cooperation with Earth Sciences Club)
- Website and e-mail listserv support



How do we know we're being successful?

- All students in the program are encouraged to complete end-of-semester evaluations (both for course and for college grant-funded program)
- Walk into study session hall and listen to laughs, see smiles, and watch the interactions!
- Instructor feedback (increased patience, as a whole students are less angry about our high standards and more pleased about the resources we provide them)
- More majors
- Stronger Earth Sciences Club
- Better alumni connections
- Stronger sense of community among our students



Websites:

Earth Sciences Department:

http://www.ccsf.edu/Departments/Earth_Sciences/

Study Session Schedule:

http://www.ccsf.edu/Departments/Earth_Sciences/content/Students/study.htm

Become a mentor webpage:

http://www.ccsf.edu/Departments/Earth_Sciences/content/Students/mentor.htm