Tutoring and Academic Skills Services
“Education is not a filling of a bucket, but the lighting of a fire.”

Utah Valley University offers a variety of free services to help your student succeed during this critical time of their lives. Tutoring and Academic Skills Services partners with the campus community to provide accessible learning and support services. They assist students in developing the course-specific knowledge and academic skills necessary for them to become independent, engaged learners and achieve their academic goals.

**Academic Tutoring**
This service offers help to students needing assistance with non-math or non-writing courses. They offer a wide range of study help including one-on-one tutoring, online tutoring, supplemental instruction and more! Academic Tutoring has six locations on campus. For more information about office locations and hours, visit http://www.uvu.edu/academictutoring/.

**Math Lab**
The Math Lab offers a variety of tutoring options including drop-in, online, and private tutors. This lab has four locations on campus. For more information about location and office hours, visit http://www.uvu.edu/mathlab/locations/index.html.

**Writing Center**
The UVU Writing Center provides a space where students of all disciplines may further their understanding of writing principles and enhance their writing skills. They provide one-on-one sessions that range from 15-50 minutes. To schedule an appointment, visit http://www.uvu.edu/writingcenter/tutorials/schedule.html.

**Learning Strategies**
Learning Strategies Support Services assists students in developing increased self-awareness of their learning challenges, and utilizing resources to create and implement a self-improvement plan to become active and independent learners and to achieve academic success. They offer services to help sharpen your skills in a variety of areas including test-taking skills, study skills, and note-taking skills. For more information about location and office hours, visit http://www.uvu.edu/learningstrategies/.

Article and picture adapted from the Tutoring and Academic Skills Services website; www.uvu.edu/tutoring.
International Study Programs
An Opportunity of a Lifetime

Is your student looking to get more out of college than a four-year degree? Perhaps an International Study Program (ISP) is exactly what they need! Not only will your child be embarking on an adventure they’ll never forget, but they’ll also be learning a lot and expanding their horizons in the process.

Utah Valley University has signed bilateral exchange agreements with foreign universities so that UVU students can participate in an Exchange Program while paying UVU resident tuition and fees, even if the student is considered non-resident. The programs are ideal for students who are independent and who seek a cultural immersion experience.

UVU also has a Study Abroad program, in which students can choose between fourteen different countries to attend school and receive academic credit towards their major.

Whether hiking Costa Rica’s rain forests, learning French on the Mediterranean coast, studying Michaelangelo in Florence, or teaching HIV-AIDS prevention in Ghana, UVU’s International Study Programs assist in finding the right study abroad program or international service learning opportunity. ISP expands your student’s horizons and adds a never-to-be forgotten dimension to their education, offering credit that can be applied to their major, general education, or electives. ISP provides students with the chance to experience a new culture firsthand and to see some of the major tourist sites of the world, while sharing the experience of a lifetime with new friends. For more information about how your student can get more involved with the International Study Program, visit http://www.uvu.edu/cgie/international/isp/.

$2.2 Million Grant
For Engagement and Completion Rates

Utah Valley University has been awarded a $2.2 million grant from the U.S. Department of Education to strengthen its engaged learning opportunities and its graduation completion rates.

Over the next six years, UVU’s Office of Engaged Learning will oversee the Title III grant. The grant-funded project, named “Strengthening Engagement and Completion” will address overall completion for UVU students, and focus on strengthening academic programs, particularly in enhancing engaged learning opportunities and scholarly activities for students.

“We know that engaged learning can, and does, play a significant role in the academic lives of students - that students who use opportunities to approach coursework and campus life in dynamic ways find themselves better prepared for graduate work or their careers,” said Frederick White, Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs. “This grant will allow us to provide more opportunities for our students to enhance their academic experience. UVU’s Office of Engaged Learning is dedicated to promoting and supporting academic engagement that involves active and collaborative learning, in and beyond the classroom.”

Title III grants are provided to help institutions of higher education develop programs that improve and strengthen academic quality and expand capacity to serve students. UVU’s use of the funding provides more access to engaged learning opportunities.
A YouTube video series called “Utah Valley Bachelor” garnered a team of Utah Valley University public relations students Best Social Media Campaign at the state’s 27th annual Golden Spike Award gala. The series, part of the team’s “A New Way to Pay” campaign, competed against more than 135 entries from public relations organizations throughout the state.

The Best Social Media award was presented to the students and advisers who created the campaign. “This award merely confirms the excellent work that our public relations students and faculty have been accomplishing over the past several years,” said David P. Yells, Dean of the College of Humanities and Social Sciences. “It is fitting recognition and a fine example of UVU’s core themes of engagement and student success.”

The annual Golden Spikes Award gala recognizes excellence and best practices in public relations and business communications throughout the state.

January Blues
Help Your Student Dump Their Winter Slump

At the beginning of the fall semester, students are ready to start their college adventures; new roommates, new friends, everything is new and exciting! Campus is buzzing with activities to participate in and clubs to join.

Soon the countdown to the holiday begins. First comes Labor Day, then onto Halloween and Thanksgiving, and before you know it, it's Christmas break! Then comes January...

This can be an unpleasant time of the year because the holiday season is over, it's cold and dark outside, and spring seems to be forever away. For many students, it might be weeks or even months until they get to spend time with family or close friends. Help your student combat these winter blues with our campus resources!

The Student Life and Wellness Center is an excellent place to start. This four-story building comes complete with a bowling alley, climbing wall, 3 basketball courts, an indoor track, 2 dance rooms, free weights, and so much more! The wellness center also offers many fitness classes including Insanity, Zumba, spin, and yoga. Additionally, the SLWC offers an excellent Personal Training Program that allows participants to work under the supervision and expertise of a certified personal trainer.

Because regular exercise has been proven to boost energy and improve energy levels, this may be just what your student needs to get out of their January slump.

Another way to help your child overcome their post-holiday slump is to have them visit the Student Health Services office. Along with a complete medical staff, the Student Health Services office includes a fully equipped mental staff.

Mental Health Therapy is available to registered UVU students who need help with various life experiences including depression, eating disorders, anxiety, stress management, addictions, abuse, marital counseling, and other areas of concern. There are also a number of support groups available. To learn more about the services available at the Student Health Services office, visit http://www.uvu.edu/studenthealth/.

Whatever the cause of your student’s January blues, make sure they know that they are not alone, and help is not far away!
On November 21, Utah Valley University took second place at the Adobe Digital Analytics Competition. UVU defeated more than 50 teams - most of them made up of MBA students - including University of Chicago, Brigham Young University, and the University of Utah. The UVU team had already beaten teams from Stanford, MIT, and Berkeley to make it to the final round.

“This was quite an exciting competition for us,” said John Anderson, professor in the University’s Information Systems & Technology Department. “All the other teams were made up of graduate students, but it was our undergraduate UVU students who excelled. This speaks volumes about the quality of students and the quality of our program.”

“Winning $7,500 and second place at this national competition is unreal for these UVU students,” said Paige Gardiner, faculty member in the University’s Marketing Department. “While the other five MBA finalist teams focused mainly on improving the shopping cart conversion rate, the UVU undergraduate team formulated a bold strategy to change the Lenovo product offer to highlight the emerging tablet market in Mexico. It is an honor for our undergraduate students to compete against the best digital marketing programs in the nation and come away with such a big win.

For the competition, student teams performed an analysis on an Adobe client’s website, then presented their findings and made recommendations to the client based on those findings. “In this case, the Adobe client was Lenovo, and they wanted to expand into the Mexico market,” said Blake McClary, a senior majoring in marketing and one of the students on the three-member team. Other team members were Scott Twitchell and Tyler Larrabee, both seniors majoring in information systems.

“After spending countless hours analyzing the data, we recommended that the most powerful, effective way for Lenovo to be successful is to enter the market with tablets because they are the most affordable entry level product for that market,” said Larrabee.

The competition included training sessions conducted by Adobe and an initial round of team presentations, where teams made it to the first round of competition. The first round of judging, conducted Nov. 3-6, whittled the competition down to the final six teams, and final presentations along with awards were announced today at the Adobe campus in Lehi, Utah.

“No UVU team has made it to the finals of this competition before,” said Twitchell, who credited the University’s commitment to applied learning for the team’s ability to compete against the other teams. “UVU is all about taking what we learn in the classroom and applying it to real-life situations. We were well-prepared for the opportunity to move past the theoretical level and analyze the data then propose solutions to an actual client.”

“We are proud of the team,” said Dan McDonald, professor in the University’s Information Systems & Technology Department. “They represented UVU well both in their presentation and in the depth of their analysis.”

Article adapted from the UVU Press Release, UVU Team Competes in Finals of 2014 Adobe Digital Analytics Competition; Photo courtesy of UVU Marketing and Communication.