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Academic Tutoring Student resource Pg. 2



Mid-Semester Conversations with your student Pg. 3



Footloose Sundance summer production Pg. 4

Fall 2021

UVU Celebrates 80-Year Anniversary

Homecoming Highlights

VU kicked off its 80th-Anniversary celebration at Homecoming Fest 2021, bringing together students, alumni, faculty, staff, and community members for the UVU milestone. Since its founding as a technical college in 1941, UVU has become a sought-after university that is educating students for success in work and life through excellence in engaged teaching, services and scholarships.

"At UVU, we believe in human potential. Every student deserves the benefits of an affordable, flexible, high-quality education," said Dr. Astrid S. Tuminez, the seventh president of the institution. "We are young at 80! We celebrate the positive impact that UVU has had on the lives of students, families, and the community. We thank those who have supported us. Together, we will do

even more to help others achieve their dreams."

Homecoming Fest began at the Fulton Library Quad. Surrounded by Utah's most popular food trucks, students, alumni, and faculty enjoyed music from DJ293, prize drawings, bounce houses, and alumni booths. Cultural Envoy, the Spirit Squad, and the Green Man Group also took the stage to dazzle with their musical and tumbling abilities.

Following the performances, President Tuminez welcomed the crowd and introduced a new alumni job shadow program, allowing students the opportunity to spend the day in person or virtually with various UVU alumni at their work to facilitate engaged learning and career exploration.

Following President Tuminez's remarks, the traditional lighting of the UVU letters included a new and improved pyrotechnics system as the crowd chanted the UVU fight song, led by the Spirit Squad.

For more Homecoming Week highlights, including women's soccer, The Emerald Ball, and Joshua Bell's performance at the Noorda, visit the Homecoming 2021 website.



Article adapted from UVU News

Semester Dates & Deadlines



Academic Tutoring

Enhance study habits, boost test scores, and achieve educational goals

Academic Tutoring embraces the power of students helping students and supports all individuals—regardless of identity, culture, point of view, or background—as they navigate the challenges associated with their educational goals. With a focus on entry level courses for programs of study, certified student employees work alongside each student to foster serious academic exploration and inspire lifelong learning. They aim to provide a space where all students are welcomed, respected, recognized, and empowered. In the supplemental instruction and peer-tutoring spaces, they explore challenging topics and are committed to deepening understanding of multiple perspectives—whatever our backgrounds, experiences, or positions. Furthermore, they spare no effort in their contribution to UVU's action commitments to include, engage, achieve and to empower diversity in all its dimensions.

175 Courses Covered

4,260 Wolverines Supported

8,033 Hours with Students

*In an average academic year

Visit the <u>Academic Tutoring website</u> for hours and to find a tutor!

How They Help

Academic Tutoring's focus is on creating independent learners rather than improving just one assignment. To do so, they focus not on quick answers, but on lasting study strategies that empower students in the learning process. Ultimately, their hope is to help each student build a foundation of study skills that will help them as they progress towards their academic goals.

Who They Help

There's a misconception that academic support is only for students who are struggling in their classes. However, they believe that students, faculty, staff, and community members from all backgrounds can benefit from developing new tools and talking through ideas. They help with a number of classes from a number of disciplines, and are always expanding their offerings.

What They Do

They provide students from all backgrounds a place to study independently, meet as groups, or work in guided review sessions. Their staff will engage with students in the learning process to develop strategies for the future rather than improve just a single assignment. Often, this is working on specific course content and building study skills needed to tackle courses, but we're flexible to the needs of each student.

Article adapted from the Academic Tutoring website.

Academic Tutoring Types

Peer Tutoring

Four on-campus labs offer support with homework, test preparation and study strategies in a number of subject areas.

Online Tutoring

Appointment-based platform allows you to video chat with one of our certified peer tutors to get one-on-one help in a variety of courses. Sessions utilize educational tools like a digital whiteboard and screen sharing.

Supplemental Instruction

The Supplemental Instruction program targets historically difficult classes and provides weekly study sessions to reinforce course material. Embedded peer leaders utilize collaborative activities to emphasize important concepts and improve study habits.



A Newsletter for Parents & Families of UVU Students
Published Each Semester

www.uvu.edu/parents-families

Articles adapted from: UVU Magazine, UVU Review, UVU Press Releases, and www.uvu.edu. Photos Complements of UVU Marketing and Communications



UVU Student Vaccine Requirement

On August 30, UVU announced that it will require COVID-19 vaccination for all students, with the exception of those who are enrolled concurrently at various Utah high schools, for the spring 2022 semester.

A vaccination status questionnaire is available when your student logs in to myUVU. It is a brief form to declare vaccination status or file for an exemption, in accordance with state law, based on religious, medical, or personal reasons. We ask that students complete the form immediately. It will be available during three login attempts. If it is not completed after the third login to myUVU, your student will be temporarily locked out of the portal until the vaccination record is completed.

UVU provides free COVID-19 vaccinations at our on-campus clinic for all students, faculty, staff, and their immediate families.

We are grateful for the collective efforts to return to in-person instruction safely. Our goal is to provide all of the traditional opportunities and engaged-learning experiences that make UVU exceptional and add to the vibrancy of our campus. COVID-19 vaccines are our greatest means of ensuring in-person classes and activities continue without disruption.

Click <u>here</u> if you have questions regarding the vaccination requirement or anything else related to UVU COVID-19 protocols.

Mid-Semester Conversations

Important conversations with your college student

WHY DO MIDTERMS MATTER?

There are many differences between high school and college, but one of the biggest is that students may not receive as much feedback on their work throughout the semester. Some classes may even have only a midterm and final exam.

At midterm, your student can reflect on whether their study habits are working, or if they need to make changes for the second half of the semester. Studying for midterms is a chance to solidify their grasp on material covered so far in a course and check for any gaps in their understanding.

Midterm exams and grades provide an opportunity for students to explore options, make decisions and get back on track if necessary. But reality checks, course corrections, options and decisions can also come with a great deal of stress.

PARENT TIPS FOR MANAGING MIDTERM STRESS:

- Acknowledge your student's stress
- Don't take it personally if they'd don't have much to say right now
- Remind your student that this is part of the rhythm of the academic year
- Support self-care
- Point out that, although midterms are important, they're only one part of a full semester's class
- Send a care package



HELP YOUR STUDENT REFLECT

Midterms are over! Your student has survived. At some schools, that's it. It will be up to your student to look at grades on exams or papers and figure out where they stand. Some schools will give an informal indication of where your student stands (perhaps Satisfactory or Unsatisfactory), and others may post formal grades. These midterm assessments are meant to give the student feedback about their work so far.

With the stress of midterms over, it's a good time for your student to think about what's next. Keep the emphasis on moving forward. And then, once again, it's time for you to step back and allow your student to use their lessons learned to plan their next steps on the college journey.

Article adapted from CollegiateParent



Footloose

Sundance summer production

fter a one-year delay due to the COVID-19 pandemic, UVU and Sundance Mountain Resort have returned to the Eccles Stage Outdoor Amphitheatre to present "Footloose: The Musical," which opened July 22 and closed August 14. The production was wildly popular, with tickets selling out through the end of the show's run.

"Footloose" marked the 13th collaborative show between UVU and Sundance. The resort has a longstanding history of summer productions and put on shows every year from 1970 until 2002, after which there was a five-year gap while the Sundance Institute focused its resources on theatre workshops.

According to Chad Linebaugh, president and general manager of Sundance Mountain Resort, UVU played an essential role in allowing the Sundance Summer Theatre series to continue. "We knew that we needed a partner, we knew that we couldn't produce it on our own, and we knew that we wanted to work with somebody here locally," Linebaugh says. "We're grateful that we have UVU as a partner who helps support us on the production so that we can continue that tradition that exists for so many people here in this community."

Since UVU partnered with Sundance in 2008, students, faculty, and staff have contributed to all aspects of the summer theatre series for the past 13 years.

"It's a nice professional-level theatre experience that we can offer our students right here in Utah," says Glenn Pepe, technical director for the UVU School of the Arts and the set designer for "Footloose." "Our students benefit from this program by both having opportunities to act in the shows and also build, light, and run audio for it."



Students played a major role in building the set of "Footloose," working with professional carpenters to construct and design the scenery, which includes an iconic bridge that is a central location in the show. In addition, several students performed as cast members, with Logan Murphy ('21) and Abigail Watts ('21) playing the featured parts of "Chuck" and "Wendy Jo," respectively.

"Having the stakes be so high and getting to perform for such big audiences is really exciting," Murphy says. "It prepares you for having jobs in the theatre and coming in and having like a two-week rehearsal process and being able to be prepared."

Both Murphy and Watts said they appreciated the chance to perform in Sundance's unique outdoor amphitheatre, which is perched near the almost 12,000-foot Mount Timpanogos. "There's something about an outdoor theatre that's just really magical," Murphy says. "Once in a while, we'll see a rat run by, and so it seems more exciting."

Watts notes that the process has involved "a lot of bug spray [and] a lot of SPF," but she says, "Ultimately, it's been really fun. It's such a cool backdrop and place to be doing theatre and creating."

While the show might seem like it has a silly premise on the surface, Watts suggests that "Footloose" has an important message about the need to express oneself and move forward after experiencing loss. This theme was especially timely in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic, as we move forward and begin to process collective loss and trauma. "As fun and kind of corny as this show is, I think it's got a really heartwarming message, too, that it's okay to move on and let go of your grief. Dance it out — cut loose!"

Article adaped from UVU News

