

Support Services for Teachers and Students

As our student population changes and as we continue to experience problems with student retention, learning how to best meet these challenges as teachers and offering support to our students has become more important than ever. Below are a list of support services that we want all faculty to know about and utilize. In many cases, it may be appropriate to share some of these resources with on your class website, at the beginning of the semester, or with particular students as needed over the course of the semester.

As always, writing program faculty are also here to support you, and we encourage anyone with questions or concerns to discuss them with Chris Weaver and Amanda O'Donnell.

Academic Success Center: <https://www.wpunj.edu/academics/asc/>

Phone: (973) 720-2563/3324

Located on the first floor of the library, this center offers tutoring for a variety of courses (though not English), workshops on academic success and coping skills, and advice about academics. Their staff includes people who work on English as a Second Language as well as reading comprehension. (WPU no longer offers ESL courses, so this is an important resource.)

It's a very good first place to stop in and discuss problems. If they can't help directly, they may be able to direct students to someone who can.

Accessibility Resource Center: <https://www.wpunj.edu/accessibilityresourcecenter/>

Phone: 973-720-2853

Located at Speert Hall Room 134. They coordinate services for students with documented disabilities, including guidance about how to provide reasonable accommodation for students. If a student is entitled to reasonable accommodation in your class, the student should provide you with a letter from this office at the beginning of the semester. However, not all students do this, and some students need follow-up discussion about how accommodation might work in your classroom, so it's worth providing this information to all students (possibly on the course Blackboard page) and encouraging this kind of conversation. This office can work with you and the student to determine the best plan for success in your class.

If a student does not have documentation but would like additional support, this office can offer advice and evaluation.

Campus Victim Services: <https://www.wpunj.edu/enrolled/student-development/dean-of-students/resources>

Phone: 973-720-2578

Located at University Commons/Student Center room 213.

Campus Victim Services is committed to assisting survivors of dating and domestic violence, stalking, and sexual violence in their recovery process and empower the community to sustain a campus that is free from gender-based violence.

Campus Victim Services Goals:

Provision of services for survivors of dating and domestic violence, stalking, and sexual violence which include:

Providing free, confidential, trauma-informed direct services to students affected by dating and domestic violence, stalking, and sexual violence.

Identifying, coordinating, and following up on services for victims of dating and domestic violence, stalking, and sexual violence.

Working collaboratively with and serving as the liaison between the Women's Center and respective University offices and community agencies concerning services for victims.

Implementation of awareness-raising, education, and training programs for students, faculty, and staff.

Counseling, Health, and Wellness Center: <https://www.wpunj.edu/health-wellness/>

Phone: 973.720.2257 / 973.720.2360

Located at Overlook South, 1st Floor. (One of the residence halls.) Offers a variety of health services to students. Services include counseling in which students are assisted with identifying and working through personal barriers, normal developmental issues and stressors, and clinical problems which could impede academic success.

Information Regarding Students of Concern: https://www.wpunj.edu/health-wellness/Students_of_Concern_Info_Sheet.pdf

Main Contact Phone (Eileen Lubeck, Assistant Dean of Students) 973-720-2450

If you are concerned that a student's behavior may constitute a threat to the safety and healthy functioning of the class, this is a resource you should consult.

Office of Veteran and Military Affairs: <https://www.wpunj.edu/veterans/>

Phone: 973-720-3660

Email: VetMilitarySvc@wpunj.edu

Located at University Commons/Speert Hall room 118. The Office of Veteran and Military Affairs provides support to veterans, active duty service members and their families by administering services that assist with the transition from military service member to college student. Our goal is to be responsive to the multifaceted concerns of Veterans and assist them in achieving their educational goals.

Pioneer Pantry: <https://www.wpunj.edu/enrolled/student-development/Pioneer-pantry>

Located at University Commons, Room 335, open Mondays & Thursdays from 2:00 pm—5:00 pm. The Pioneer Pantry is a resource for non-perishable items and basic toiletries for all currently enrolled William Paterson Students. The pantry is a collaboration between the Student

Government Association (SGA) and the division of Student Development, with a generous donation from SGA funds.

Starfish For Student Success: Starfish is the platform the University uses to record attendance and to report students who may be struggling in your classes. We strongly urge you to use this program *early in the semester* in order to identify students exhibiting problems such as missing class, coming to class late, missing homework or assignments, or struggling with their writing. Where appropriate, students who are flagged will often be contacted in order to devise a plan for improvement.

The web page above contains a guide to using Starfish, but faculty are also urged to meet with Chris Weaver (x2913) or Amanda O'Donnell (x3066) for one-on-one instruction and consultation.

Will Power 101: This is a one credit seminar taken by all incoming freshmen, usually in the fall semester. It includes discussion and implementation of study skills and academic planning. If you have a freshman in your class who is struggling, it may be worth looking up who the student's Will Power facilitator is and contacting that person. (You can do this online. Ask Chris or Amanda to show you how.)

The Writing Center: <https://www.wpunj.edu/cohss/departments/english/writing-center/>

Phone: 973 720 2633

Writing Center Director, Sean Molloy (x2214)

Located on the first floor of the Preakness Building, their mission is to help students by consulting one-on-one about any kind of writing, at any stage, on any device. They can help with brainstorming, getting started, expanding drafts, global revision, thesis questions and statements, organization and outlining, adding rhetorical power, style, transitions, using/citing sources, and strategies for editing and proofreading. Both face-to-face and online tutoring are available.