



What to Do When Tutoring is Not Available

Through partnerships with multiple academic departments at USM, The Learning Commons is able to offer 1:1 subject-specific assistance in 60+ undergraduate courses. We are a peer support service, meaning our tutors are current USM students who have completed a nationally-accredited tutor training program. *We do not provide support for all USM courses.* If you're seeking subject-based assistance and don't see your course listed in our current list of Subject-Based Tutoring offerings, please consider the following next steps:

- **Meet With Your Instructor** - Office hours are an excellent opportunity to establish a relationship with your instructor and proactively address any areas of concern. Meet to ask questions, clarify course concepts, and demonstrate your investment in the course.
- **Form a Study Group** - Studying in groups is one of the best active learning strategies! Form a small group with classmates to discuss course concepts and readings, test for understanding, and more! Our [Learning with Others page](#) includes a step-by-step approach for effectively working with your peers.
 - NOTE: Your [Navigate USM account](#) features a [Study Buddy](#) opt-in service that helps students get connected with other students in their enrolled courses. When you opt in, other students in your classes will be able to see your email address and can connect!
- **Meet With a Peer Academic Coach** - In addition to Subject-Based Tutoring at the Learning Commons, you can learn academic strategies for approaching your course content effectively (e.g., time management, active reading, note-taking, self-testing, etc.) by scheduling an appointment with a [Peer Academic Coach](#). Please refer to our [How to Schedule an Appointment resource](#) for step-by-step guidance with scheduling an appointment.
- **Review Academic Strategies** - Our [Study Skills & Learning Strategies site](#) contains numerous resources dedicated to becoming an "AGILE learner" (Academic Gains through Improved Learning Effectiveness), along with specific strategies on [attention & motivation](#), [note-taking & active reading](#), [preparing for exams](#), and more! These strategies include self-testing, active practice, and making connections between ideas, all of which will maximize students' academic time inside and outside the classroom.

For additional information on academic support resources and strategies, visit the [Learning Commons website](#).