



# SOURCE

University of Miami

Camner Center for Academic Resources

## Meet the Camner Center's Newest Editions to the Staff

*The Camner Center for Academic Resources has been searching high and low to assemble an amazing team of individuals who are dedicated to helping students reach their academic goals and be successful. In this issue of The Source, we will introduce some of the friendly faces you will see around the Camner Center the next time you come in.*



**Name: Sylvia Goncz, Assistant Director of The Office of Disability Services**

**What You Like About Your Position:** Before coming into this position, I was working at UM's Medical Campus, which has its own set of joys and challenges. What I love about this position is getting to work with students and being more involved in the campus culture. The students and staff here have so much school spirit, and you can tell how proud everyone is to be a

Miami Hurricane.

**Something You Struggled with in School:** My first language is Hungarian, so I initially struggled with learning to read in English. Luckily, I had very supportive teachers and parents. In first grade, I was part of a program where we would read to younger students in the Kindergarten classes. This allowed me to gain confidence in my speaking and reading skills and become more fluent in English.



**Name: Jessica Vidal, Testing Coordinator**

**What You Like About Your Position:** There's never a dull moment! In this position, there is ALWAYS something to do.

**Something You Struggled with in School:** Math has never been my best subject. In order to pass my math classes, I had to put in a great deal of effort and utilize the support resources that were available to me.



**Name: Morgan Anderson, Learning Specialist**

**What You Like About Your Position:** I remember that when I was a college student, I learned so much; not just in terms of academics, but also about myself and the world around me. I enjoy helping my students navigate that process, and helping them figure out how to be successful in their classes.

**Something You Struggled with in School:** In high school I really struggled

with chemistry. One time I got a 9 out of 100 on a test. I had always been really successful in school, so to have that big of a failure really shook my confidence. After a good cry and some deep self-reflection, I realized that it was okay to ask for help. I started getting tutoring from a classmate and from my teacher. I think the most important part though, was realizing that I didn't have to be a perfect student—that it's okay to fail because your failures often result in your greatest growth.



**Name: Samantha Gonzalez, Front Desk Secretary**

**What You Like About Your Position:** In my position, I get to interact with every student that comes into the Camner Center. I love it because I get to meet so many different types of students and get to know little pieces of their lives and their stories. I really enjoy helping students when they come into the office,

whether it's answering questions about our services, giving them directions, or just being a positive person when they walk in the door.

**Something You Struggled with in School:** Definitely procrastination. I have always procrastinated, but I feel like the time crunch and the pressure sometimes motivates me to do my best work.



**Name: Mariel Cruz, Accommodations Specialist**

**What You Like About Your Position:** When students register with the Office of Disability Services, they typically have a LOT of questions. I like that I can be a listening ear for them and support them in navigating the process of transitioning to college and understanding how to use their accommodations.

**Something You struggled with in School:** In high school, history was my least favorite subject. There were so many dates and names to keep track of! What really helped me was to study in advance, and then teach a classmate the information, because she always waited until the last minute to study. "Teaching" someone else is a great way to make sure that you have really learned a subject!

—By Morgan Anderson



# MYTH BUSTERS: Tackling Some of the Misconceptions of the Camner Center

—By Mario Diaz

Messages sometimes get muddled and some pre-conceived misconceptions start sounding like facts. It's no different in college and among the departments that are here to help students. Unfortunately, some of the misconceptions can lead to students missing out on some vital support and opportunities that could have made their college experience more meaningful. Let's take a look at a few examples from our very own academic resource department, The Camner Center for Academic Resources:

## ***"The Camner Center is just for tutoring"***

While the Camner Center does indeed house the University of Miami's main undergraduate tutoring hub, it's also home to the Office of Disability Services, the Learning Specialist program and the University of Miami Experience (UMX 100) class.

## ***"You have to pay extra money for tutoring"***

This one is the most common. It turns out that Camner Center Tutoring is free for all enrolled undergraduate students for the courses that they are registered in. There are no extra fees!

## ***"You have to pay extra money to see a Learning Specialist"***

Just like tutoring, any enrolled UM student can make an appointment with a Learning Specialist free of charge. However, enrolling in the Independent Learning Initiative will have the cost equivalent of 1 credit of tuition. The added benefit is that the Learning Specialist you're assigned to will meet with you weekly starting the first week of classes and continuing through final exams with personalized 1 on 1 sessions. View their brochure online.

## ***"Camner Center tutors don't get paid because it's a volunteer job"***

Wrong! Our peer tutoring position is a paid role with the opportunity for job growth. Our program offers College Reading & Learning Association (CRLA) trainings to all tutors. With the completion of each level of training, tutors are eligible for a raise. Additionally, the CRLA certificate looks great on your resume!

## ***"Since I got accommodations in high school, I'll automatically get accommodations now in college"***

Accommodations must be requested by a student in a timely manner which will allow the Office of Disability Services to review documentation, determine eligibility, and establish the accommodations. All accommodations are determined as part of

an interactive and collaborative process. During such a process, ODS staff will work collaboratively with students to determine how to reasonably accommodate students through possible academic adjustments and/or educational auxiliary aids.

## ***"I can just do all my homework with my tutor – that's what they do"***

Tutors will *not* help students do graded work. However, tutors can discuss concepts and background information that can assist students with doing their own homework – which ultimately might end up helping them understand the material better.

## ***"UMX 100 is a waste of time. You can just ignore it"***

Not true! Not only does UMX 100 cover all of the important information that new students need to be successful in their transition to college, but it also showcases all of the available departments around campus that will prove vital later on in your college career. Also – the class IS graded. Though it's worth 0 credits, whatever grade a student gets in the course will appear on their University of Miami transcript. So if you're a new undergraduate student and haven't completed the class yet, log in and get it done!

## ***"Camner Center tutors will help me out with my standardized exam (i.e. GRE, LSAT & more)!"***

Our tutors cover almost all of the available UM courses which they themselves have gotten at least an A- in, however tutoring for standardized tests like the GRE and LSAT is not available through our office.

## ***"I can book a tutoring appointment right now and see a tutor almost instantly"***

Students can only book appointments 24 hours ahead of the time that they need assistance. Most appointments are booked 2-3 days ahead of the appointment, so be sure to book early and see the Tutoring Coordinator or Tutoring Assistant Director to schedule reoccurring appointments.

***It's always easy to believe what your peers tell you, but it's important to reach out and do your own research, especially when it comes to your academic career. You can find more information about the Camner Center for Academic Resources on our website: <http://camnercenter.miami.edu/>***

# Deaf and Hard of Hearing Meet UP Groups

Interested in meeting new people or learning a new skill? Check out the following meet up groups and get active in the Miami community!



## Miami

### Deaf & ASL Starbucks Social

Every First Friday of the Month - 7pm - 11pm  
at Starbucks, 5711 NW 7th St, Miami FL 33126 (near airport)  
A Community Event by Waving Hands of Florida  
Waving Hands, Inc, P.O. Box 440996, Miami, FL 33144  
Text: 305-343-9784 VP: 786-350-1030  
info@wavinghands.org

### Free ASL Classes - Miami Area

Mondays 6pm - 8pm  
Tuesdays 4:30pm - 6pm  
info@wavinghands.org  
305-343-9784 (text/voice) or 786-505-7926 (phone)



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Camner Center for Academic Resources

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*The Source* is the official publication of the Camner Center for Academic Resources. *The Source* is produced semi-annually. Visit [www.camnercenter.miami.edu](http://www.camnercenter.miami.edu) for more info.

## Need Advising or Tutoring?

EAB Campus is a student success management tool that can be used as a one stop shop for students looking to meet with an academic advisor or schedule a peer tutoring appointment. Similar to GradesFirst, students are able to schedule both advising and tutoring appointments online. Visit [www.umiami.campus.eab.com](http://www.umiami.campus.eab.com) to schedule an appointment today!

### TUTORING BEGINS

Jan. 29<sup>th</sup>

Schedule **FREE** tutoring now!

- 1 Go to: [www.umiami.campus.eab.com](http://www.umiami.campus.eab.com)
- 2 Click on:
- 3 Select: **Camner Center - Tutoring Appointments**

Course offerings are subject to availability.





Course term is Jan. 1st - May 9th

## Tutoring Begins January 29th



Now Accepting Tutoring Requests  
via [umiami.campus.eab.com](http://umiami.campus.eab.com).

## Deadlines for ODS

**Jan. 31st:** Last day to request notes for  
the Spring 2018 semester.

**April 13th:** Last day to schedule a final  
exam for the Spring 2018 semester.

**June 1st:** Last day to request  
accommodations for the Fall 2018  
semester.

\*Accommodations for summer and  
intersession courses must be submitted 6  
weeks prior to the first day of classes.

## Let's Get Social!

 @umiamiarc

 UMCamnerCenter

 @umiamiarc

# Study Techniques

—By Justine Green

## Exam Preparation:

1. Starts at the beginning of the semester
  - Talk to the instructor: Ask them about the structure of exam and the time allowed for the exam.
  - Focus on time management: Make a schedule and stay organized!



## Studying is PHYSICAL!

1. Get plenty of sleep
  - Staying up late to cram the night before will impair your mental abilities.
2. Get exercise
  - Aerobic activities reduce stress, keeps you relaxed, positive, and provides study breaks.
3. Eat right
  - Eat breakfast before an exam to give you the energy you need.



## Studying is EMOTIONAL!

1. Know the material
  - Confidence is important for doing well.
2. Practice relaxation techniques
  - Go for a run or do some stretches.
  - Sit in a quiet area and take a few deep breaths.
3. Positive self-talk
  - Remind yourself that you are prepared, and will do great!

“A self-fulfilling prophecy is a prediction that directly or indirectly causes itself to become true, by the very terms of the prophecy itself, due to positive feedback between belief and behavior.”



## Planning for Success:

1. Find out about the test
  - Know the type of test you will be taking. This will help target your studying!
  - Know WHAT will be on the test.
2. Schedule out study time
  - Leave plenty of time to prepare. Usually 7 days is best!
3. Study Groups
  - Get a group of people together to review for tests.
  - Quiz and teach each other.

## Use Other Resources!

- Get a Tutor
- Your Professors & T.A.s
- Academic Advisor
- Counselor
- Learning Specialist