Student Success Videos

Everyone needs a little help sometimes. Whether you are struggling to find time to complete your homework or you need some tips on how to complete a great discussion post, SD State Online now has resources available for you.

In an effort to create helpful materials for our online community of learners, the CDE Office has been creating a variety of student success videos designed with online learners in mind.

There are currently three student success videos available at SD State Online. Each short video addresses key concerns of online learners. Current videos address time management, creating successful discussion posts, and tips for reducing stress. Each video also includes additional resources to assist students with their individual needs.

Check these videos out at SD State Online, and be on the watch for more videos on online group work, effective research strategies, and more.

Have a suggestion for future student success videos? Let us know!
Welcome, Tracia and Jamison!

Tracia Hogue and Jamison Lamp are new to the Continuing and Distance Education Office. Now’s your chance to get to know them.

**Tracia Hogue**

Tracia is the new Student Services Facilitator in the CDE office. She assists current and prospective students pursing higher education through online/distance learning opportunities.

**What are your goals within the CDE office?** Provide the best service to our online students, plan some fun activities for the department and continue to enjoy my job.

**What do you enjoy most about your job?** Working with students, both high school and college.

**What is your favorite thing about SDSU?** The fact that we are a small-town college but are still able to offer so many opportunities to our students. And the Dairy Bar!

**What is your favorite flavor of SDSU ice cream?** Strawberry Revel

**What are some things you do in your spare time?** Golf, Garden, Read, Do any kind of puzzle: crossword, Sudoku, jigsaw, etc.

**What is your favorite TV show?** Criminal Minds

**If you could be anyone in history, who would it be and why?** Princess Diana – her life was not easy but she always held her head high and moved on. She was a terrific mother and unfortunately, she died way too young.

**Did you know...**

68.3% of academic leaders believe that students need more discipline to succeed in an online course than in a face-to-face course?

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**Jamison Lamp**

Jamison is the new Professional and Special Programs Coordinator. In this newly created position, Jamison will manage professional workshops, conferences, training and development, and events that extend beyond the university.

**What are your goals within the office?** I am excited to help grow the programs I manage. There is a lot of opportunity within this new position to really expand on the good foundations we have and grow new programs from the ground up.

**What do you enjoy most about your job?** The diversity. Every day I work on various projects, some related and some completely different from the other. Within those programs I am working with varied topics as well, from marketing materials to budget management.

**What is your favorite thing about SDSU?** I was an SDSU graduate in 2012, for me it is really exciting to be back on campus and feel the energy and excitement that you only feel on campus.

**What are some things you do in your spare time?** In the summer, just about anything outdoors. I usually have a simple home improvement project in the works. I have also mastered a couple Bundt cake recipes!

**What is your favorite TV show?** The Voice, Modern Family and I always love awards season – Grammy’s, People’s Choice, etc.
First Annual CDE Open House

While you were submitting your selfies, student stories, and responding to Facebook trivia during National Distance Learning Week, the CDE Office was celebrating online learning on campus.

The open house was an opportunity to recognize the growth and success of distance learning. Representatives from the SDSU Library, Instructional Design Services, and the Veterans Affairs Office joined us to educate the SDSU community on various programs and support services offered by SD State Online.

Nominations for the following awards were collected from various faculty, staff members, and students during the weeks leading up to the open house: Excellence in Online Teaching, Outstanding Online Program, and Outstanding Continuing Education Student.

President David Chicoine, along with Director of Continuing and Distance Education, Lindsey Hamlin, presented plaques to the following winners of the 2015 CDE Awards:

- **Dr. Lyle Olson** - Excellence in Online Teaching
- **Master of Mass Communication** - Outstanding Online Program
- **Sarah M. Ellis** - Outstanding Continuing Education Student
Meet Sarah Ellis

Sarah is an online student working toward a bachelor’s degree in interdisciplinary studies and a minor in studio art. She was recently recognized as the 2014 Outstanding Continuing Education Student. Sarah expects to earn her degree this upcoming August.

“Online distance education provides me the flexibility to obtain a quality degree from a respected South Dakota university without having to relocate,” Sarah said. “As a full-time professional with a family and volunteer commitments, being able to access my studies from any computer, at any time, anywhere is invaluable.”

Sarah initially chose to pursue a degree online because she was unable to relocate. “There are some disconnects and obstacles with online learning,” Sarah said, “but like anything worth working hard for, it has been a rewarding challenge that I have never regretted.”

“I have forged some spectacular friendships working with my classmates on projects, helping each other problem-solve the unique challenges of online education, and providing a support system for one another,” Sarah said. “I still swap essays for review with students I haven’t shared a class with in several semesters because we value each other’s constructive criticism or opinions.”

Sarah’s senior thesis explicates how art therapies assist refugees, asylees, and persons living in politically conflicted regions cope with and recover from trauma as well as maintain their cultural identities. Sarah is looking forward to her upcoming study abroad experience this summer in Rome, Italy. The six-week journey includes excursions to Pompeii, Naples, and Tuscany. She plans to enroll in a photography course and either Italian Language and Culture or a communications course.

Through her coursework, Sarah wrote a poem about the challenges she has faced during her journey. [View poem -> Transition – The Evolution of a Non-Trad.]

Social Plug-In

Stay up-to-date on the latest trends in online learning. Get helpful study tips. Read up on interesting articles when you need a study break. And much more. Like us on Facebook and follow us on Twitter.

👍 SDSUContinuingEd

🐦 Twitter@SDSUDistanceEd
The Writing Center is a free tutorial service available to SDSU students. Tutors consist of graduate and undergraduate students from the English department.

Our mission is to help students improve as writers and to provide them a with a welcoming and constructive environment in which to do this. The sessions, are learning sessions in which the writer and the tutor discuss various issues and concerns that arise in a text and work through them together.

We work with students on any type of assignment (application letters to essays to thesis chapters) and at any stage of the student’s writing process (from brainstorming to drafting to revising).

We have a fairly limited online presence at this point. Currently, our website provides links to some different resources for students as well as links for scheduling an appointment.

We are currently trying out some different programs for online tutorial sessions so we can replicate as closely as possible the on-campus tutoring experience. We will be piloting this throughout the current semester with the hope of being up and running with more regular availabilities in the fall. We believe that online students deserve access to our services, and we want that experience to be of the same quality as our face-to-face tutoring.

If students are interested in trying out a session, they should contact Nathan Serfling. The Writing Center will be using Lync for these trials, so students will need to download the software and familiarize themselves with the layout (See Lync Tutorials).

Any further questions regarding the SDSU writing center can be directed to Nathan Serfling.

Multi-Term Registration Now Available

SDSU has recently adopted a multi-semester registration model. This means you can extend your registration to future semesters, allowing you to plan your course schedule and academic budget a year in advance.

While you are not required to register a year in advance, you are encouraged to do so. You can use your program guide to identify courses you want to take during fall 2015 and spring 2016. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact your academic advisor.

Spring 2014 Dates
♦ Mar 16 — First half Spring Term ends
♦ April 7 — Last day to drop a course
♦ April 3-5 — Easter Recess
♦ May 4-8 — Final Exams
♦ May 9 — Graduation Ceremony
♦ May 13 — Grades due on WebAdvisor

Summer 2015 Dates
♦ May 11-22 — May Interim
♦ May 25 — Memorial Day Holiday
♦ May 26–Jul 31 — 10-wk Summer Session
♦ July 3—Independence Day Holiday
♦ Aug 3-21—August Interim