SUPPORTING STUDENT LEARNERS

NEW FACULTY ORIENTATION, AUGUST 2023

Holly Buckland Parker [She/Her], Educational Developer
Center for Teaching & Learning

Nate Gondelman [He/Him], Assistant Program Director
for Student Accessibility Services presenting on behalf of the
Center for Academic Success

Sheila Boland Chira [She/They], Undergraduate Writing Center
Director & Senior Lecturer in English

METACOGNITION

SESSION AGENDA

1. **Metacognition** in the classroom, Center for Teaching & Learning (CTL)

2. The UVM **Writing Centers**: Graduate (GWC) & Undergraduate (UWC)

3. The **Tutoring Center** in the Center for Academic Success (CfAS)

4. **Student Accessibility Services** (SAS) in the Center for Academic Success (CfAS)

5. Q&A

METACOGNITION IS …

The use of **reflective awareness** to make **timely adjustments (self-regulation) to behaviors** that support a **goal-directed process**.

Source: https://www.improvewithmetacognition.com/

2 IDEAS FOR TEACHING WITH METACOGNITION

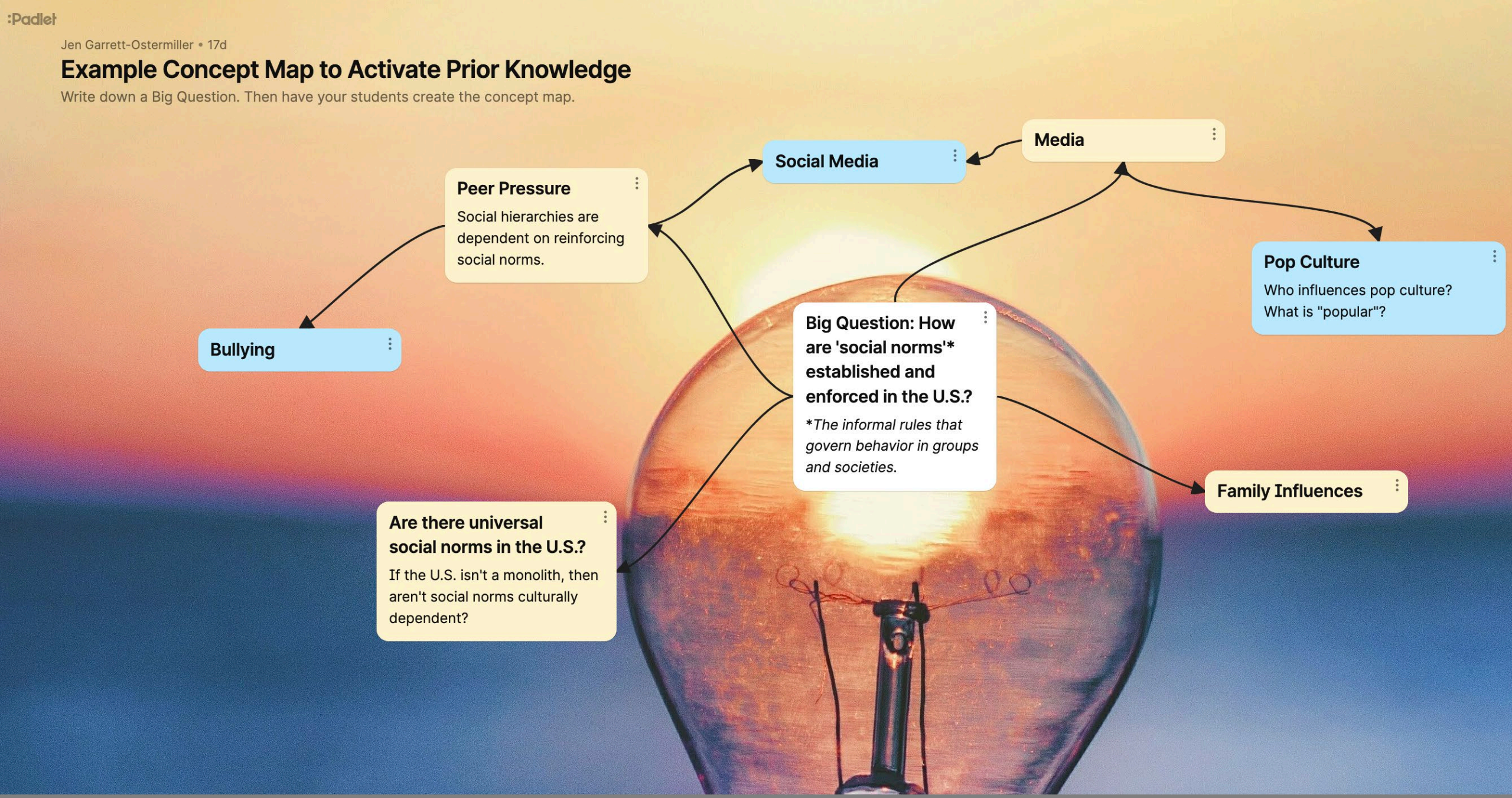
- *Concept Maps* to activate prior knowledge
- *Exam Wrapp*ers for reflection & preparation

:Padlet

Jen Garrett-Ostermiller • 17d

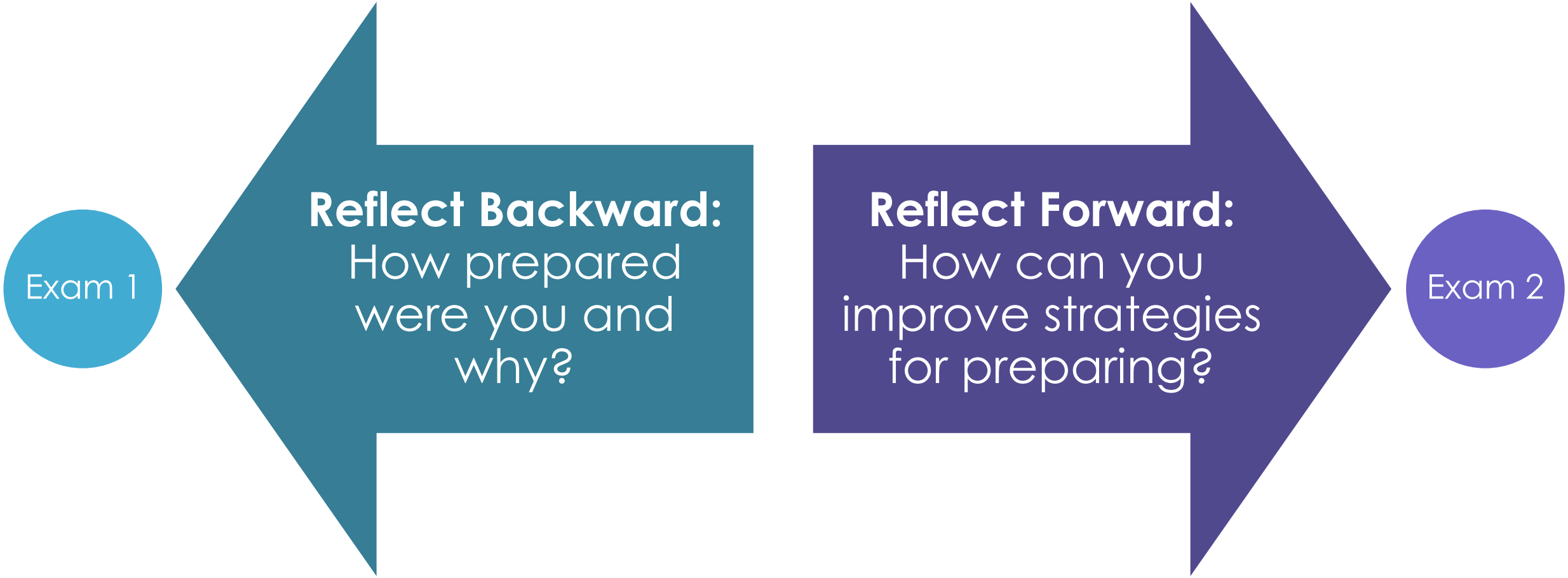
Example Concept Map to Activate Prior Knowledge

Write down a Big Question. Then have your students create the concept map.



EXAM WRAPPERS IN A NUTSHELL

(MORE DETAILS ON THE CTL WEBSITE)



Writing Centers
Undergraduate & Graduate

Sheila Boland Chira
Undergraduate Writing Center Director
& Senior Lecturer in English

UVM WRITING CENTERS: UNDERGRADUATE & GRADUATE

Peer-to-peer writing (and information literacy) support

- for all students enrolled in an undergraduate class or a graduate program at UVM,
- on any project involving writing (essays, theses, lab reports, research posters, applications),
- at any stage in the writing process.

Howe Library, Ground Floor
Sunday—Friday
uvm.edu/writingcenter

HOW CAN I ENCOURAGE MY STUDENTS TO VISIT THE WRITING CENTERS?

- Foster a growth mindset! All writers benefit from feedback and audience awareness.
- Scaffold writing instruction and processes.
- Include information about the Writing Centers on syllabi and assignment instructions.
- Reward students who share their client report forms with you.
- Invite a writing tutor or consultant to visit your class.

Tutoring Center

Student Accessibility Services

First Generation Initiative

Nate Gondelman
Center for Academic Success

FIRST YEAR OF COLLEGE AS A TRANSITIONAL ENVIRONMENT

Average High School Class	Average College Class
Teacher has teaching degree	Instructor is specialist, not necessarily trained in teaching
Highly structured	Less structured
Classes meet every day	Class meets 2-3 times a week
Regular quizzes and assignments	Quizzes and assignments vary in frequency
Frequent reminders about due dates, assignments, etc.	Syllabus may be only reminder of due dates
Teacher bears most of “responsibility” load	Student bears most of “responsibility” load
Independent thought not always rewarded	Independent thinking expected

TUTORING CENTER

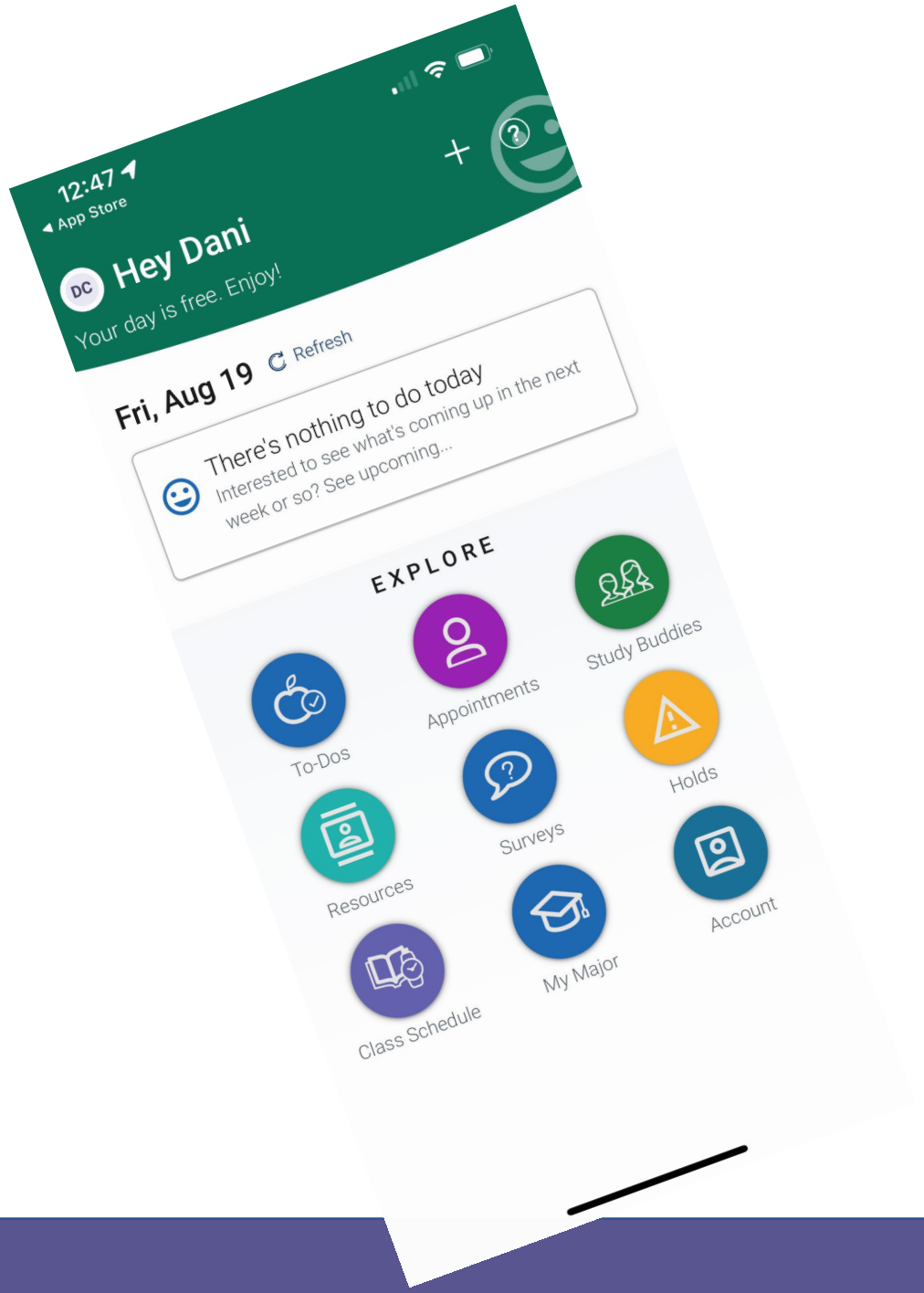
- Peer-to-peer learning model
- Individual and group, on-line and in-person opportunities
- Centralized, free service

TUTORING SERVICES INCLUDE:

Subject Area: Students meet with a tutor, either one-on-one or in a small group for specific course support (e.g. psychology, English, language courses, math, economics).

Study Skills: Assists with general learning and study strategies such as: reading comprehension, note-taking, test preparation, time management, prioritization, organization, etc.

Supplemental Instruction (SI): Aimed at historically high-risk courses, SI integrates "what to learn" with "how to learn". Sessions are facilitated by trained SI leaders.



Easy to schedule appointments using the NAVIGATE App or email tutoring@uvm.edu

UVM STUDENTS AND DISABILITIES/ELIGIBILITY

- Over 2800 students by end of Spring '23
  - Narrative, Documentation
- ADD/ADHD: 35%
- Blind/Vision: 1%
- Deaf/Hearing Loss: 2%
- Developmental: 5%
- Learning: 17%
- Mobility: 2%
- Psychiatric: 53%
- Systemic/Chronic/Episodic Illness: 21 %
- Speech/Language: 2%
- Traumatic Brain Injury: 2%
- *Temporary*

Functional Definition of Accessibility

Provide students the opportunity to

- acquire the same information
- engage in the same interactions
- and enjoy the same services

as students without disabilities, with substantially equivalent ease of use.

ACCOMMODATION EXAMPLES

- Notetaker
- Exam accommodations/Exam Proctoring Center
- Assignment Extensions
- Attendance Flexibility
- Rescheduling of Exams if Ill
- Alternate Format
- Reduced Courseload
- Institutional Accommodations

UVM RIGHTS & RESPONSIBILITIES

	Faculty	Dean's Office	SAS*
Maintain academic and technical standards	✓	✓	
Maintain confidentiality of information and records	✓	✓	✓
Engage in an interactive process with a student	✓		✓
Ensure students with disabilities are not discriminated against	✓	✓	✓

*Student Accessibility Services

STUDENT RIGHTS & RESPONSIBILITIES

Provide documentation for SAS to confirm that they have a disability

Receive reasonable accommodations that provide equal access

Determine WHO will receive disability-related information and WHEN

Students complete an online, instructional workshop orienting them to available services

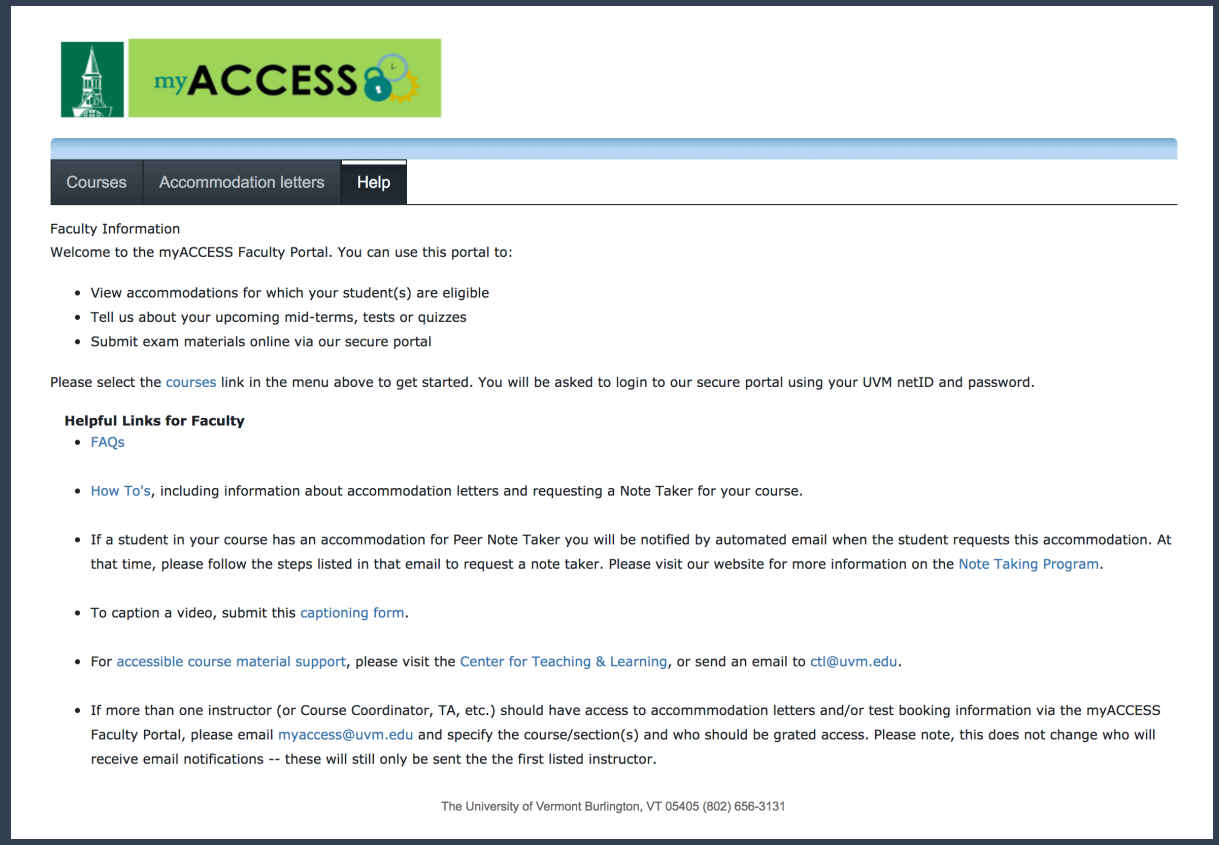
myACCESS MANAGING DISABILITY ACCOMMODATIONS

myACCESS provides feedback and information through a secure online web portal

Students can email accommodation letters

Faculty can view accommodations for all courses

The majority of letters are disbursed during the first three weeks of the semester



Contact Information

Student Accessibility Services
Nate Gondelman,
Assistant Program Director
Student Accessibility Services
Nathan.Gondelman@uvm.edu
802- 656-7841

FIRST GENERATION INITIATIVE

To get connected...

- *Self-identify* as first-generation via at go.uvm.edu/firstgen.
- Submit your first-gen story via go.uvm.edu/firstgenspotlight to be featured in our *Spotlight Series*.
- Join us for National First-gen Celebration Day November 8th!

THANK YOU!

We look forward to working with you!

CTL@uvm.edu

TUTORING@uvm.edu

ACCESS@uvm.edu

Writing.Center@uvm.edu

Understanding the Undergraduate Writing Center: Tips for Faculty

www.uvm.edu/undergradwriting

What happens at the Undergraduate Writing Center?

The Undergraduate Writing Center offers free peer writing support to students taking classes at the University of Vermont. Tutors do not correct papers for students or write comments on drafts; rather, they engage writers in conversation and activities designed to help them move forward with writing projects. It's free to *any student* enrolled in an undergraduate class, and they can visit at *any stage* in their writing process for *any discipline or genre*.

Who provides the tutoring?

Peer writing tutors come from a variety of majors and colleges. They are carefully chosen through an interview and application process after being recommended by an instructor. In their first year, they also take a year-long service-learning course, exploring how to provide peer support in a writing center setting.

How can Faculty Encourage Students to Visit the Writing Center?

- Include information about the Writing Center on your syllabus and/or your assignment prompts.
- Offer extra credit! Students receive a client report form after each visit. They can forward it to you to show their extra effort! (Please don't send your students to get a form signed—this can lead to students seeking only a signature rather than engaging productively in a writing session.)
- Request a class visit from a writing tutor to introduce students to the Writing Center (10-15 minutes).
- Longer class visits (25-45 minutes) can be arranged and include facilitated discussions of writing topics (e.g. Effective Peer Review, Understanding Composing Styles, or Citation Strategies).
- Tell your students about the Writing Partner program! Students can request to be matched with the same writing tutor for weekly appointments. (Great for Seniors finishing honors theses, First-years adapting to college writing, English language learners, and all writers who could benefit from an accountability partner!)

Did you know that faculty who participate in WID programming can request WID Mentors?

- A WID Mentor is an experienced writing tutor who is attached to a writing-intensive course to support faculty with writing instruction and students with writing processes and projects.

Contact the Undergraduate Writing Center Director
Sheila Boland Chira
sbolandc@uvm.edu, 802-656-7963

Frequently Asked Questions

My student went to the Undergraduate Writing Center. Why are there still so many issues?

- Our mission is to help students become better writers, not fix their papers for them.
- A tutoring session should enable a student to improve a paper, but some issues may be beyond what a tutor and writer can address in the 50 minutes they have to work together.
- Tutors generally prioritize global issues (e.g., understanding the assignment or rubric, developing ideas, organizing the parts, integrating sources) before sentence-level issues.
- If students and tutors do work on editing, tutors encourage writers to improve their skills by helping them learn to identify and correct patterns of error in their writing—tutors do not simply copy edit for writers.
- Tutors are in peer-to-peer relationships with writers, and they have no control over what students do as they continue to revise, edit, and proofread after their session.

Can a student see a tutor with experience writing in my discipline?

- Our writing tutors are generalists, trained to support students from different fields and with a variety of types of assignments. They can support students from any field to develop effective writing strategies even when they are not experts in the content area.
- We do recruit tutors from a variety of disciplines. Students can consult our Appointments page, www.uvm.edu/undergradwriting/appointments, to "meet" tutors and learn more about their concentrations. (If you would like to see more tutors from your discipline on our list, **please recommend some**! We recruit new tutors in early March for the following academic year.)

I have a student with many writing issues. Can I send this student to the Undergraduate Writing Center?

- We have a limited number of tutors available to work with students on a weekly basis as writing partners. If a student has gotten to college with what seem to be deep-seated issues with writing, a weekly meeting with a peer tutor is unlikely to produce quick improvement, but it can be a start! Students can request a writing partner www.uvm.edu/undergradwriting/forms/writing-partners up until the last month of a semester.

Can I require students to go to the Undergraduate Writing Center?

- You can require a small number of students to use the Writing Center, but please don't make this a requirement for all students without first consulting Shelia Boland Chira (sbolandc@uvm.edu), so we can make sure our capacity can accommodate your students. Students receive a client report form via email following each appointment and can forward it to you as evidence they attended.

What else can writing tutors help students with?

- Tutors can introduce students to the basics of common citation styles, and they can help students figure out where to find answers to more complex questions about how to cite sources. Tutors will refer students to reference librarians when needed but can also help students practice information literacy skills for writing assignments.
- Tutors can work with multilingual writers to strengthen their editing skills, helping them (1) reword passages for clarity and (2) learn to identify common patterns of error in their writing and to correct them. This is a slow but useful process; improvement takes place over time.
- Writing tutors can support students with all types of assignments that involve writing, not just traditional academic papers. They are trained to help students consider genre expectations and audience needs for lab reports, reflections, research posters, presentations, podcasts, speeches, resumes, cover letters, and applications.
- Tutors cannot edit papers for students. We don't have the resources, and this does not fit our mission, which is to help students develop their writing abilities.

Can graduate students use the Undergraduate Writing Center?

- Graduate students can use UVM's Graduate Writing Center www.uvm.edu/gradwriting to meet with trained graduate writing consultants—MA and PhD students from across disciplines.

Updated May 2023