



International Academic Success Program

This program is designed to provide academic support for international students by pairing students with trained learning strategists to help them develop effective study strategies and achieve academic success. Learning Strategists are Graduate Students in the Faculty of Education trained with the strategists from the Resource Centre for Students with a Disability (RCSD) – Learning Assistance Program.

Program Approach:

- Strength based with an emphasis on self-regulated learning strategies.

A Learning Strategist can help students:

- Set and achieve academic goals.
- Develop effective strategies for note-taking, time management, exam prep, reading, etc.
- Better understand academic tasks and how to break down work into manageable steps.
- Determine strengths and increase confidence.
- Improve the ability to identify and understand expectations of professors.
- Gain a better cultural understanding of the Canadian university classroom.

A Learning Strategist can not:

- Do homework or assignments for students.
- Edit papers or do research for students.
- Tutor on specific subjects.
- Meet or contact professors or TA's.

Areas that the student might identify for support:

- Understanding the Canadian university classroom
- Time management
- Exam preparation and writing
- Note-taking
- Reading comprehension
- Task understanding
- Assignment planning
- Group Work

How does the program work:

- Students meet learning strategists in the drop-in hours and determine if the program is a good fit.
- Students can meet with strategists on a weekly, bi-weekly or monthly basis.
- Strategists work with students to identify academic goals and what they hope to accomplish in the program.
- The initial discussions include:
 - **Strengths & learning experiences** – What’s working? How can the student leverage those strengths? Is there anything that isn’t working? What kind of support and expectations does the student have for addressing those? Are they finding the Canadian university experience different from their home academic experiences? If yes, then how is it different?
 - **Goals** – how does accessing the program fit with the student’s goals for their university experience? What does the semester look like? What do they want to be different?
 - **Preferences** – In the structure of the sessions and communication between student and strategist.
 - **Past experiences** – Anything that can inform and help shape the IASP experience moving forward.
 - **Scheduling** – specific availability, blackout times, etc.
 - **What to expect** – communication from our program, with the strategist, what to bring to sessions, and who to ask if they have questions.
- After the goals for the program have been identified, strategists work with the student to identify and develop effective tools and strategies that will help the student realize their strengths, reach their goals and build their confidence.
- Student and strategist monitor their work together to determine what is effective and whether the student is achieving their goals.

Drop-in Hours in the International Commons room 135h:

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday	1:00pm – 5:00pm
Wednesday	9:00am – 1:00pm

www.uvic.ca/iasp