Academic Mentor Training

What and when is Academic Mentor Training?
Academic mentor training is a three day mandatory event taking place immediately before each semester begins. The purpose of training is to instruct new mentors and refresh returning mentors in collaborative skills, study techniques for students, session planning, using available technology, and to keep all mentors informed of Learning Center policies, procedures, and values.

Who attends Academic Mentor Training?
Along with Bepko Learning Center staff and Coordinators who facilitate training, new academic mentors attend all three days of training, and the returners will attend the third day. The training presentations and activities on the first day are directed to introducing new mentors to the Learning Center and the basics of academic mentoring in the classroom. The second day of training is reserved for practice and specific techniques. Returning mentors are present to help provide feedback to the new academic mentors.

What specifically are Academic Mentors trained in?
After introductions and orientation into the Bepko Learning Center, the following training topics are covered below. These topics do not always follow the same progression and are subject to change.

Day 1 - 2 *(new mentors only)*
- Orientation and Program Overview: The Beginning of your Mentoring.
- Collaborative Learning Techniques: There is No “I” in “Collaborate”.
- Study Skills: The Building Blocks of a Session.
- Learning Styles: Effective Communication through the Senses.
- Classroom Assessment Techniques: Gauging Student Learning.
- An Introduction to Planning your Session.
- Assessment: The Importance of Feedback.

Day 3 *(all mentors)*
- Mock Session Presentations.
- Oncourse CL: Navigating Your Mentoring Experience.
- Coordinator Consultations: Mentors Meeting Their Mentors.
- Session Management: Civility in the Classroom.
- Effective Communication: The Fine Line between Criticism and Constructive Feedback.
- Instructor Breakout Groups.

Can faculty members attend Academic Mentor Training?
Although not required, faculty members are strongly encouraged to attend and see how academic mentors are trained. The second day of training has time reserved for faculty members to meet with their assigned mentors and discuss expectations, goals, and to become better acquainted. This section of training is referred to as “The Instructor Breakouts,” and faculty members will receive email invitations to academic mentor training prior to each training event. Please consider joining us for the next training event.