

Academic Mentor Training

What and when is academic mentor training?

Academic mentor training is a two-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 Bepko 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 both days of training. In contrast, returning mentors are only required to attend the second day. The training presentations and activities on the first day are dedicated to introducing new mentors to the Bepko 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 are academic mentors trained in specifically?

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 (*new mentors only*)

- Orientation and Program Overview: The Beginning of Your Mentoring
- Collaborative Learning Techniques: There Is No “P” 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 2 (*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 to discuss expectations and goals, and to become better acquainted. This section of training is referred to as “The Instructor Breakouts,” and faculty members will receive e-mail invitations to academic mentor training prior to each training event. Please consider joining us for the next training event.