SCP Students Say

I was able to begin my college career with a little extra help and advice due to SCP.

I was undecided on my major coming into USC and the SCP Counselors assisted me in choosing my major.

This program enabled me to become a successful student at USC.

It can be very hard to get classes as a freshmen, and the SCP Counselors told me when the classes I wanted opened up space.
THE PROGRAM

Students accepted into the University of Southern California (USC) come with a diverse set of academic interests and personal successes. USC knows that admitted students will be successful, based on their past outstanding achievements. USC also acknowledges, however, that it can be challenging to acclimate to college life. The Support Centered Program (SCP) recognizes both the students’ strengths and the challenges of college life, and provides academic support and mentoring opportunities for its participants. SCP collaborates with academic and student service offices across USC’s campus, creating a central location for students to access the information and support they need. The program makes opportunities and information available to students to encourage them to become actively involved in their own learning process.

THE GOALS

SCP’s primary goal is to provide students with a network of support as they transition to the rigors of USC. We want to ensure that new students feel comfortable and prepared in their new setting. Each new student who comes to USC is a unique individual, and we want to ensure that they have their varying and specific needs met in a personalized setting.

THE CURRICULUM

EDPT-110
In their first year at USC, SCP students have one additional course they are required to take. This is a four-credit, one-semester course in Educational Psychology, and covers motivation and learning strategies. This is valuable for new college students because it applies cognitive psychology and motivation theory to improve students’ learning across academic disciplines. This course:
• Translates high school study habits to be applied successfully to college-level curriculum,
• Guides students in a self-examination of their own academic strengths and areas for improvement,
• Assists students in fine-tuning their time-management skills, and
• Strengthens students’ overall ability to take better charge of their academic success.

Academic Units

Participation in SCP will normally take two years at USC to complete the 52 to 64 units of academic requirements. Besides EDPT-110, these requirements are not an additional or separate course load from all other USC students. Rather, to ensure that SCP students have the greatest amount of success and flexibility in their last two years of college, SCP provides guidance on how to structure courses so that most of USC’s General Education, Writing, Foreign Language, and Diversity requirements are satisfied by the end of a student’s participation in SCP.

THE SERVICES

Academic Support Counseling
Students meet with their SCP Counselor at least twice a semester, although we encourage students to make additional appointments as needed. In these meetings, students discuss their academic progress and performance, and any factors that may be impacting their success. To build a solid foundation for success, SCP Counselors offer assistance with course registration, guidance with General Education courses, monitor mid-semester progress, discuss maintaining satisfactory academic progress, and make any appropriate referrals to university resources. We help students integrate their personal and academic lives, approach faculty and staff, effectively navigate the university terrain, and maintain a balanced schedule.

Tutoring and Learning Assistance
Through the Center for Academic Support, SCP students will have ease of access to tutors and learning assistants. Subject-area tutoring services come through a nationally certified tutoring program, and cover a broad range of subjects. Learning assistant services focus on specific study skills and test preparation techniques. SCP students can use the Center for Academic Support website to schedule appointments or look up walk-in hours.

Learning Enrichment Workshops
The Center for Academic Support also offers workshops that focus on student skills that are necessary for peak academic performance. Past topics include time management, note-taking, power reading, test-taking anxiety, writing research skills, and how to improve memory skills. Using student survey feedback, SCP will work to ensure we cover all students’ areas of concern.