

Texas Woman's University
Supplemental Instruction and Tutoring Program

00:03 Supplemental Instruction, or SI, is designed to increase student success in more challenging courses.

00:09 Many of these courses are considered gateway courses and improving students' study skills, note-taking skills and time management skills, in these courses, leads to building stronger students for future classes.

00:20 Supplemental Instruction consists of preplanned, peer-led study sessions held outside of class time.

00:26 SI leaders are student-peers who have successfully completed the course they support.

00:31 At Texas Woman's University, the sessions are fifty minutes, with forty minutes of Supplemental Instruction and ten minutes of tutoring and are called S.I.T., or SIT, which stands for Supplemental Instruction/Tutoring.

00:44 Course Assistants, TWU's version of SI leaders, attend class, act as model students, prepare SIT lesson plans, facilitate SIT sessions, act as peer-mentors when needed, and may interact with students during regular class time.

00:59 SIT sessions dig into the more challenging concepts covered during class time.

01:04 Students who attend SIT earn better grades, gain a deeper understanding of the course material, and tend to perform at a higher level in future classes.

01:12 TWU's SIT program grew out of the Comprehensive Student Success Program grants awarded by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board.

01:19 The TWU SIT program is invited to present to the Coordinating Board in July, 2015, and will receive a Recognition of Excellence at that time.

01:29 Faculty, working with the program, report that course assistants provide a link between students and faculty and act as mentors for students.

01:37 There are many student benefits.

01:40 Students are more confident and more willing to ask questions in class when they are confused.

01:44 Having a course assistant who is a peer, provides a more laid back in-class environment.

01:50 Some of the faculty enjoy being able to conduct highly interactive classes in which the instructor and the CA interacts directly with the students.

02:01 The students get more involved in the learning process and students end up helping students.

02:07 The instructors also appreciate that SI provides additional explanations from different points of view.

02:15 Faculty believe SIT benefits the student and the instructors.

02:20 Supplemental Instruction is a resource for students to get help and gain a better understanding of difficult material covered in class.

02:26 SIT provides a safe environment for students to ask questions without the pressures of being in a large classroom.

02:31 Many Course Assistants have experienced SIT as a participant in a SIT supported class, so they understand students' struggles with the course materials.

02:39 As peers, we understand the students' struggles because we've experienced them ourselves.

02:43 Course Assistants guide students to work together to find answers and organize concepts.

02:48 SIT gives students an opportunity to explain the challenging concepts covered in class and when a student can fully explain a concept they actually understand it.

02:58 SIT helped me become more successful in class.

03:01 SIT helps me better understand the material because I can work with students who are struggling like me.

03:06 I like that I am able to ask questions about material that might not have been understood in class.

03:12 There's no pressure about getting answers wrong in front of the whole class.

03:16 I gain a better understanding of the material.

03:18 SIT rocks!