



FURMAN
UNIVERSITY

CENTER *for* ACADEMIC SUCCESS

Annual Report



2023/2024

From the Directors

As I reflect on the past year, I am filled with pride and gratitude for the remarkable achievements of our team and students. Our commitment to student support is at the forefront of everything we do. Year after year, we work to provide resources, guidance, and personalized assistance to ensure that every student has the opportunity to succeed academically. The 2023-2024 academic year was one of tremendous growth and I am delighted to share some of our accomplishments with you.

At the heart of our mission is our unwavering commitment to students and their academic success. Over the past year, we met with 397 unique students for a total of 2,227 appointments, an increase of 19% percent from the previous year. First- and second-year students make up the majority of those appointments at 71 percent. In addition to student meetings, we launched new initiatives to promote our office and services.

Our team also participated in an intensive professional development training series through JST Coaching. All of our academic coaches and PAL/WML colleagues are trained in student success coaching which focuses on collaborative partnerships between students and professionals. This model embraces a life coaching model, with academics at the core. By using this model, we can help our students be self-reliant, self-confident, and self-determined.

As we move forward, we will look to find ways to integrate more with our faculty and curriculum. We will continue to embrace academic wellness and holistic success.

In closing, I would like express my deep appreciation to all who have contributed to the success of our Center this year. Your dedication and passion for academic excellence is unmatched. Together, we will continue empowering our students to reach their highest potential.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

Sincerely,
Kelsey Harp
Director, Academic Success



Kelsey Harp
Director, Academic Success

We had a great year in Peer Assisted Learning (PAL) and the Writing & Media Lab (WML). Much like the previous year, PAL Consultants helped 292 unique students during 946 appointments across over 40 classes. After four full years of data, it looks like the we're consistently seeing just under 300 users across over 900 appointments.

Our WML Consultants helped 425 unique students during nearly 1000 writing and multimedia consultations, showing continued growth compared to last year. We've expanded support for writing outside of the classroom, helping with essays for Study Away applications and graduate school statements. Across both programs, we helped 616 unique individuals representing approximately 24% of Furman students.

Considering these numbers, we've decided to focus on increasing awareness of our services across campus and the broader Furman community. We've developed a promotional plan through which we hope to reach more students and, more importantly, reach them at times in the semester when our help will be most relevant to them.

We started offering disciplinary study halls aimed at upper-level students in order to better provide tutoring for students who are delving deeper in their academic majors. We plan to continue to offer these study halls alongside a new initiative aimed specifically at first-year students to help them develop study strategies early on in their college career.

We are looking forward to finding new ways to connect this coming year. Look for us to be active on social media, especially Facebook, Instagram, and LinkedIn. We also plan to launch a newsletter to help students and families keep up-to-date on what's happening in our programs. Check our website, furman.edu/cas, for how to connect with us!

Sincerely,
Jean Schwab
Director, PAL/WML



Jean Schwab
Director, Peer Assisted Learning
and Writing and Media Lab

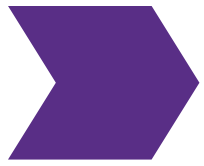


Table of Contents

Letters from the Directors	2
Meet our Team	3
CAS by the Numbers	4-7
Faculty and Staff Resources	8
Coming Soon	9
Connect with Us	10
Contact Us	11

Meet Our Team



KELSEY HARP
DIRECTOR, ACADEMIC SUCCESS



JEAN SCHWAB
DIRECTOR, PEER ASSISTED LEARNING AND
WRITING AND MEDIA LAB



ROBYN LEE
ACADEMIC COACH



JESSICA KOENIG
ACADEMIC COACH



SUZY DOVER
ACADEMIC COACH



BROOKE SCHIFANO
LEARNING RESOURCES SPECIALIST

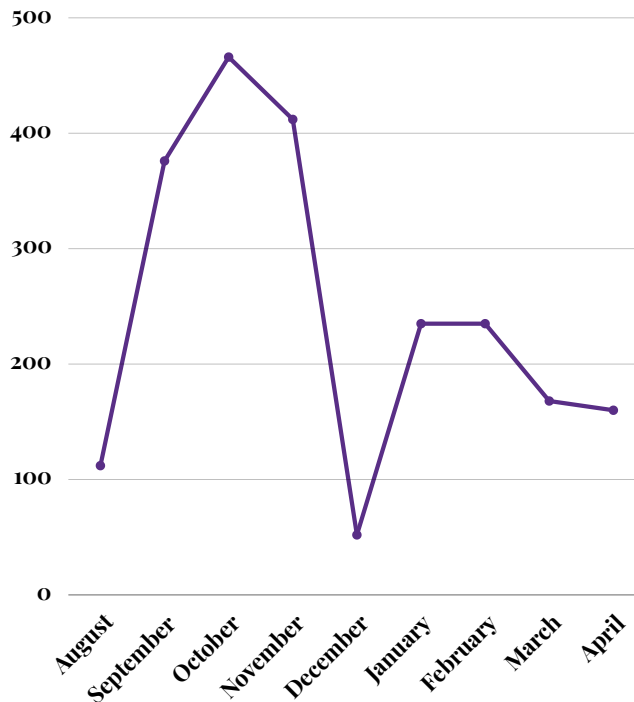


GRETCHEN SNOW
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

CAS by the Numbers

Academic Coaching Appointment Data

Academic Coaching Meetings by Month



Fall 2023: 1,418 Spring 2024: 809
 Total: 2,227 Academic Coaching Meetings

Class Standing

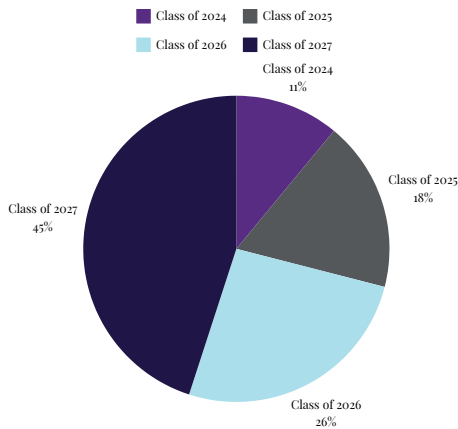


Figure 1: Percentage of students utilizing CAS services by anticipated graduation date

Success @ Furman Referrals

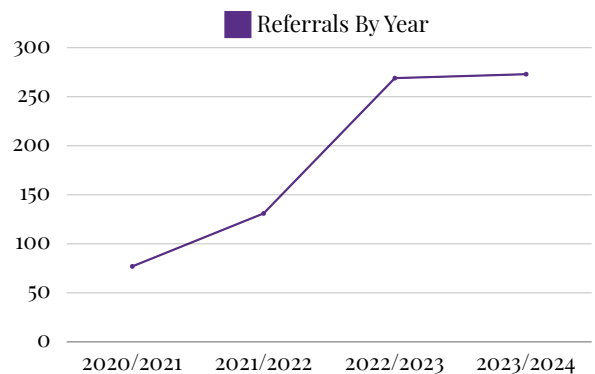


Figure 2: Number of referrals raised requesting services for students

397 unique students served in 2023/2024

CAS by the Numbers

Academic Coaching Comparison Data

2022/2023: 1,867 Academic Coaching Meetings 2023/2024: 2,227 Academic Coaching Meetings

Academic Coaching Meetings by Month

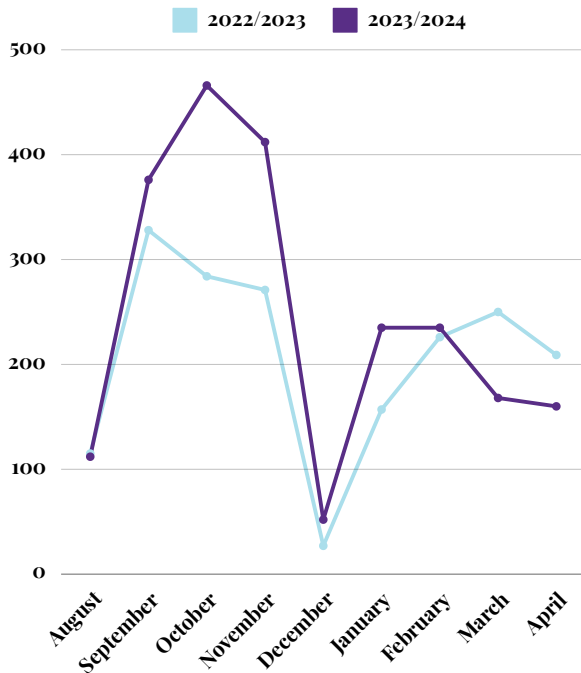


Figure 1: Comparison of number of students seen each month for Academic Coaching

CAS Unique Students

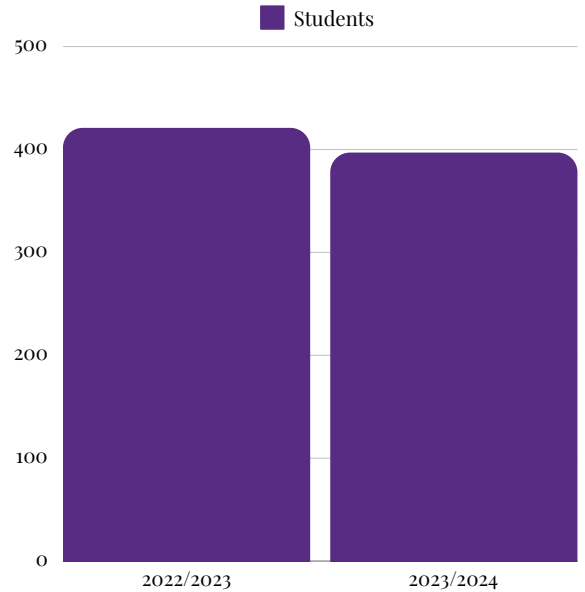


Figure 2: Comparison of number of unique students seen the past 2 years for Academic Coaching

Increase of 360 total Academic Coaching Meetings

Decrease of 24 unique students

Class Standing

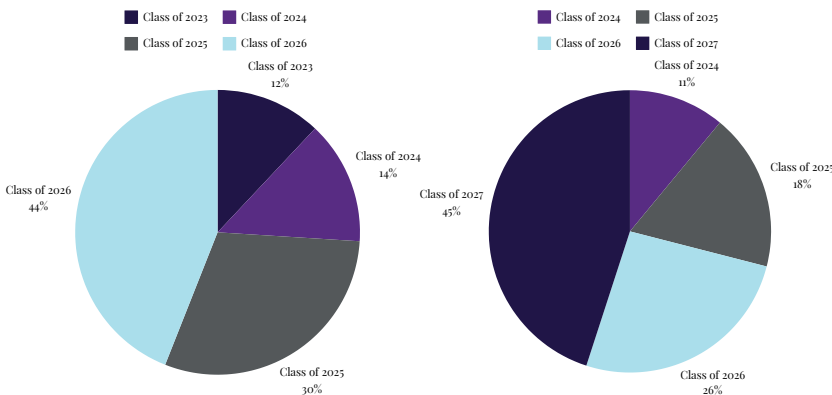


Figure 3: (2022/2023) Percentage of students utilizing CAS services by anticipated graduation date

Figure 4: (2023/2024) Percentage of students utilizing CAS services by anticipated graduation date

Success @ Furman Referrals

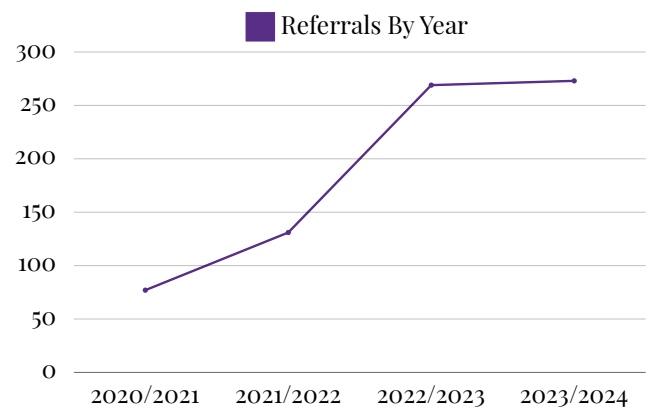


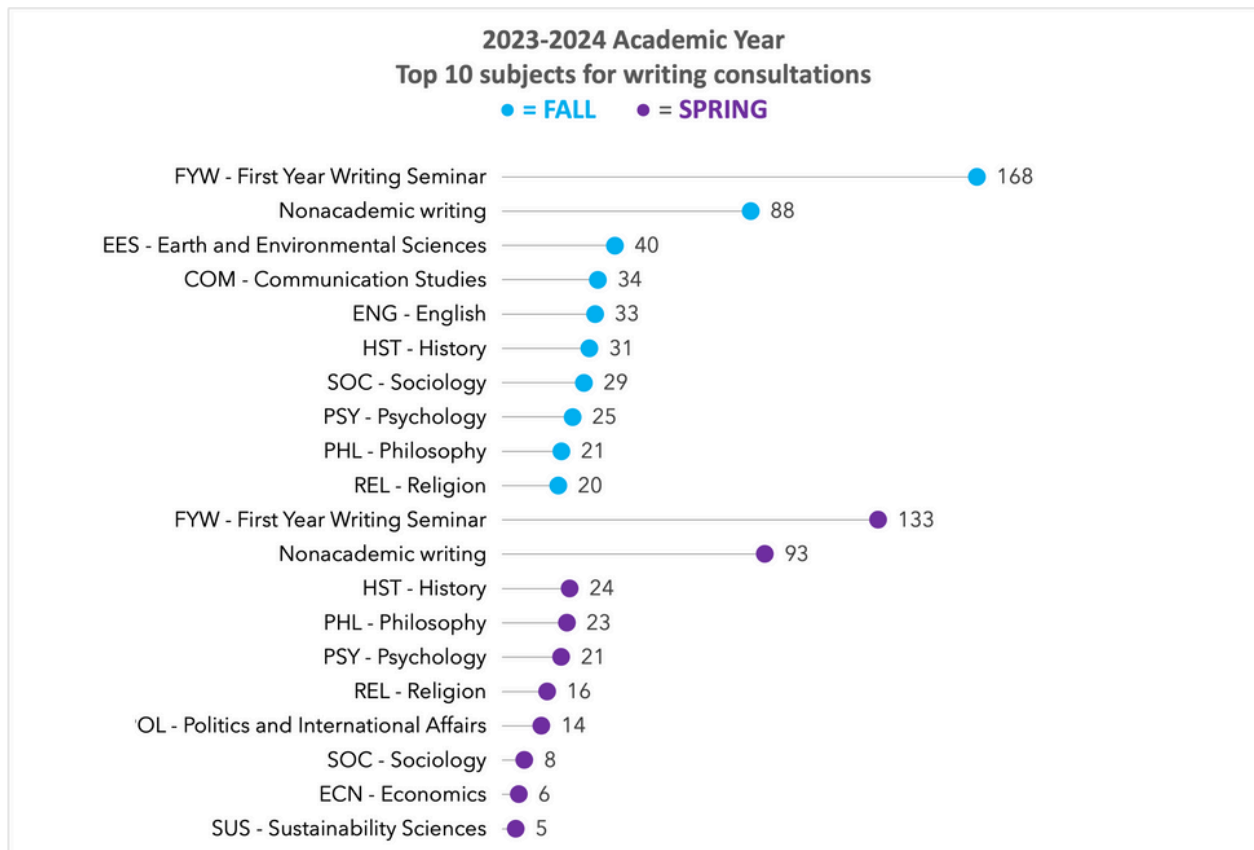
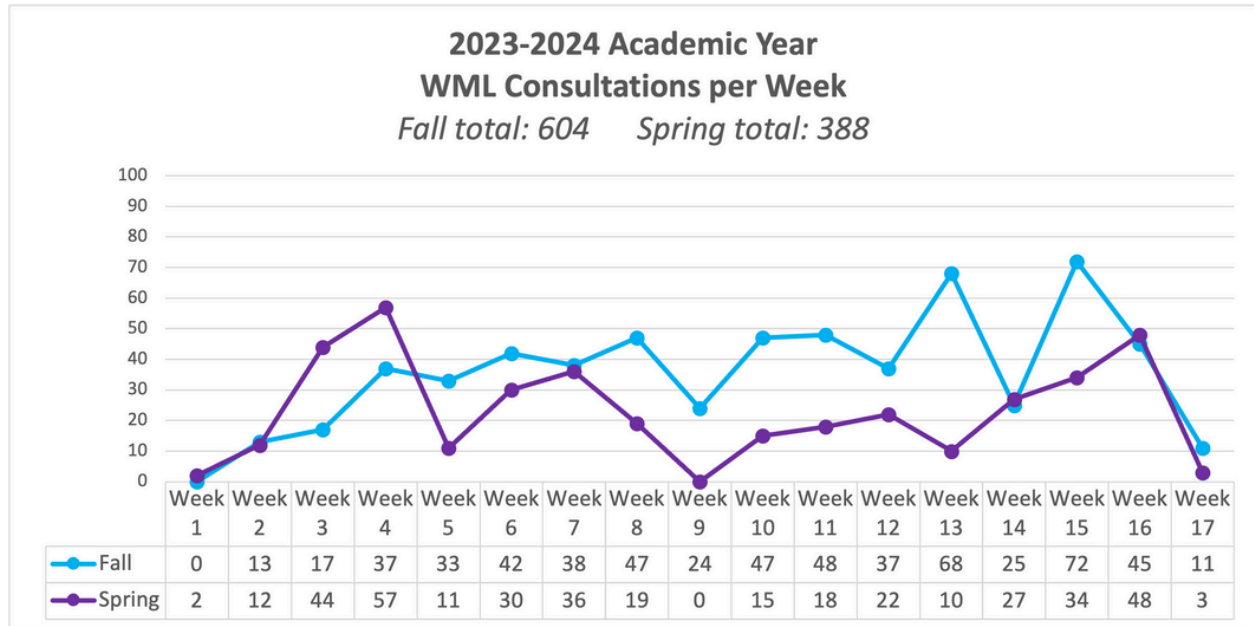
Figure 5: Number of referrals raised requesting services for students

Increase of 1% of first-year students using CAS

Increase of 4 referrals

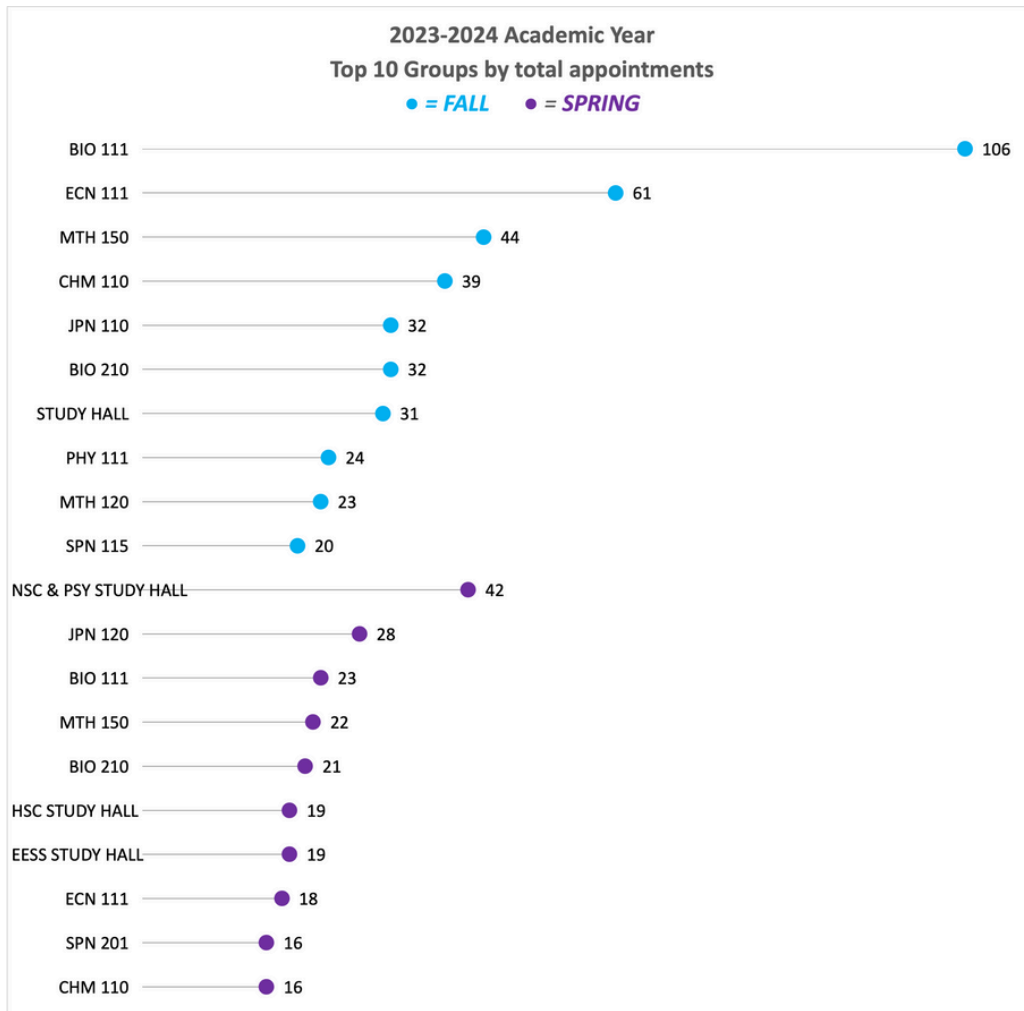
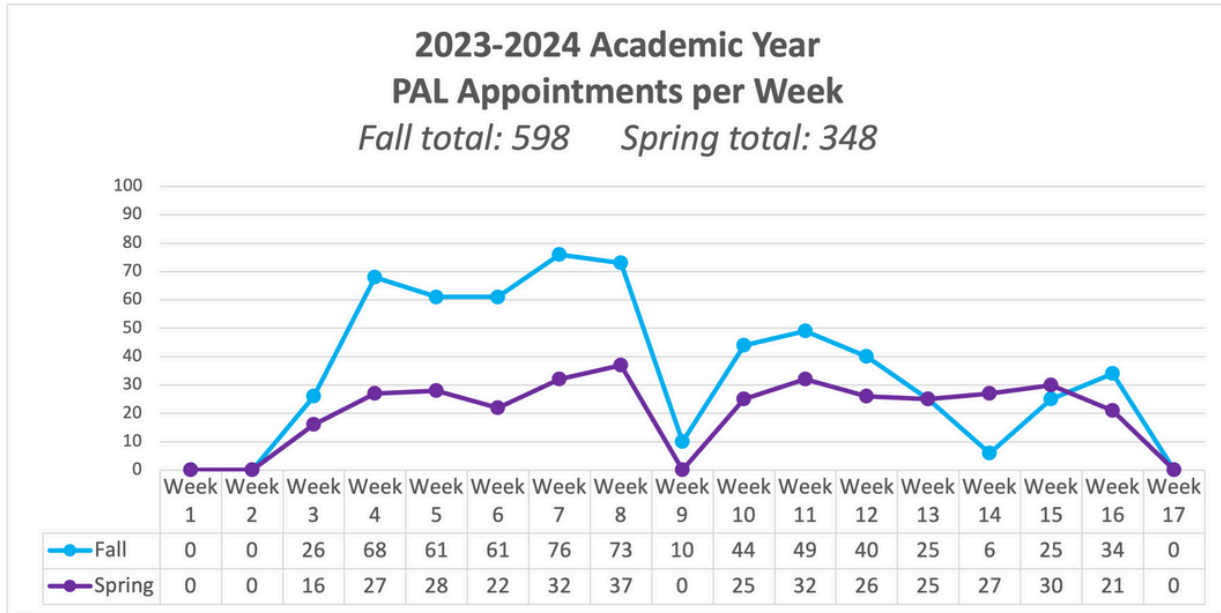
CAS by the Numbers

Writing & Media Lab



CAS by the Numbers

Peer Assisted Learning



Faculty & Staff Resources

CAS Syllabus Statement

The Center for Academic Success (CAS) offers resources to assist undergraduate Furman students with their intellectual experience. Support resources are available to students at no charge. The Center for Academic Success is located on the lower level of the James B. Duke Library (Office 002). Resources include and are not limited to time management and organization support, learning and study strategies, academic skills workshops, and one-on-one academic coaching with professional staff members. The Center for Academic Success can be reached at cas@furman.edu or (864) 294-2343. Virtual resources are available at: <https://furman.edu/cas>. Appointments are preferred but are not necessary.

CAS DEI Statement

The Center for Academic Success at Furman University acknowledges that our community is strengthened by diversity in all forms. We commit to engaging intentionally with all students to support their academic growth. We will work to create and foster an environment where students matter; where they are valued; and where they gain a sense of belonging. We will strive to uphold these values through our individual actions and we hold ourselves and our community accountable for respecting all forms of diversity.

Meeting with an Academic Coach

Do you have students that are interested in meeting with an Academic Coach?

Students can visit our website and fill out an Academic Coaching Request Form to connect with our office.

Do you have a student that you think would benefit from services offered by The Center for Academic Success?

Please raise an Academic Success Referral in Success @ Furman and a member of our team will be in touch with the student.

CAS Classroom Visits

We are excited to offer a new opportunity for faculty this academic year. The Center for Academic Success is offering opportunities for academic coaches to come to your class and speak with your students. Whether you are looking to provide a session on time management, a specific study skill, or general tips on test preparation for your course, CAS can work with your students to provide a group coaching session that caters to the need of your course. If you're interested in setting up a classroom visit, please contact Kelsey Harp (kelsey.harp@furman.edu) or Jean Schwab (jean.schwab@furman.edu).

About PAL & WML Consultants

Each semester we hire and train current undergraduate students to serve as peer consultants for PAL and WML. If you know students from your courses who you think would be a good fit to serve as a mentor and tutor for other students, whether in a specific course or with writing or multimedia, please let us know! Our application can be found on our website or you can email student names to Jean Schwab (jean.schwab@furman.edu). Faculty recommendations are important for helping us find the right students to work as consultants!

Coming Soon...

The Center for Academic Success is excited to launch several programming options in the 2024-2025 academic year.

Academic Success Advisory Board

In the 2024-2025 academic year, we will officially launch the Academic Success Advisory Board (ASAB). The main function of the Academic Success Advisory Board is to assist and advise the Center for Academic Success, primarily academic coaching, with enhancement and revision of student services and programs. Ideally, the ASAB will function as a recurring focus group, meeting regularly to share needs and expectations, as well as emerging trends in academic support. Members of the Board will include representatives from faculty, staff, and students.

Academic Wellness Events

The Center for Academic Success will be hosting several Academic Wellness events on campus this year. During these events, we hope to provide students with tips and resources that will help support academic wellness. Please join us to learn more about CAS and grab some swag!

PAL First Year Study Halls (FYSH)

Given the success of our upper-level disciplinary study halls last spring, we've decided to create a series of study hall sessions aimed at first year students. Staffed by students entering their second year at Furman, these FYSH study halls will provide new students a space to learn new study strategies, create community with their peers, and experience academic mentorship from students who were in their shoes not that long ago.



Connect with Us

Do you have a student who is interested in connecting with academic support resources?

Please scan the QR code below to sign up for our services.

Academic Coaching



Peer Assisted Learning & Writing and Media Lab



CAS Newsletter





CENTER *for* ACADEMIC SUCCESS

James B. Duke Library
Room 002
3300 Poinsett Highway
Greenville, SC 29613



864 - 294 - 2343



cas@furman.edu



www.furman.edu/cas

