

Overview of Supplemental Instruction (SI)

Supplemental Instruction (SI) at Monroe Community College is a course-based learning program that helps to mainstream and accelerate completion time of college-level requirements. SI fosters student persistence by providing collaborative peer learning experiences that reinforce course content, promote critical thinking, strengthen study skills, cultivate intentional learners, and develop a sense of belonging. SI targets courses, not students and is embedded directly into courses that have been identified as historically difficult. This mode of academic support is accomplished through the work of an SI Leader, a peer who has successfully taken the targeted course with the participating instructor. The SI Leader is a model student who knows what to expect and will share successful learning strategies. The Leader further attends all class lectures, takes notes, works closely with faculty, attends an office hour, and offers sessions (to help clarify course concepts). SI Leaders do not lecture, but direct collaborative learning exercises that encourage students to take responsibility for processing course content. A typical SI session is between 45-60 minutes and might include a review of lecture and assigned readings, group work and discussion, problem-solving, and critical thinking activities. The SI Leader facilitates learning by actively involving learners with course content outside of class. Ultimately, an SI session combines key course content and study skill strategies to highlight not only *what* to learn, but also *how* to learn.

SI Model & Design



SI Coordinator collaborates with administration and academic schools to identify targeted courses, gain faculty support, help select and train SI Leaders, and evaluate program success.

Faculty invite and approve SI support for their courses, screen and approve potential SI Leaders, and reinforce SI program.

SI Leader is competent in the content of the targeted course, approved by instructor, and trained in collaborative learning strategies by the SI Coordinator.

Students are critical to the success of the program and participation is either voluntary or required.

Description of SI Leader

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