WELCOME, CLASS OF 2024!

Welcome, Class of 2024, to Princeton – and welcome to the McGraw Center! Our goal is to help you take full advantage of the academic opportunities available at Princeton while also maintaining balance and achieving your goals. We think hard about what is new and unfamiliar to students as they transition to Princeton’s ways of teaching and testing, and we offer completely cost-free services and programs that will equip you to master the inevitable challenges, attain your personal goals and achieve success so that you truly THRIVE here. Under these extraordinary circumstances, it’s even more important that you engage the resources available so we have expanded our offerings for you to meet the demands of virtual learning.

WHERE DO I START?

Learn what to do the first week of classes to start the semester strong by signing up for a student-panel led by McGraw learning consultants to get realistic, effective ‘inside’ information from Princeton juniors and seniors—and ask any questions you want. The semester starts fast, so during the first week of classes there are workshops on interpreting and using the Princeton Course Syllabus on September 2nd and September 4th and during the second week on Learning from Virtual Teaching and Mapping Out Your Semester on September 9th and the 11th. You can sign up right now and put the sessions in your calendar so you don’t forget! Learning Consultations are available from the first day of classes and Course Jumpstarts are offered the first week. Tutoring starts Sunday, September 6th; sessions will be offered at least 4 days per week (likely Sun through Wednesday) and staggered throughout the day (between 10 am EST and 10 pm EST) to meet the needs of students in various time zones.

WHY USE MCGRAW?

In this new intellectual environment, with new expectations, demands, and ways of doing things you may sometimes find yourself wondering, "How do I...?"

How do I manage my time and academic tasks effectively?
How do I handle these big reading loads?
How do I keep up with the fast pace of my lectures and classes?
How do I tackle problem sets and other assignments efficiently?
How am I expected to participate in precepts?
How do I make the most of Princeton resources, including tutoring, etc.?
How do I structure my time and stay engaged when learning online and studying on my own?
How will exams be different and how do I prepare for them?

First-year students are entering a new teaching-learning culture at Princeton, so these questions are to be expected. At McGraw we pride ourselves on breaking down the many unfamiliar, often invisible expectations with you and guiding you toward new Princeton-specific strategies and techniques to help you answer these and other questions—and implement the answers. At McGraw you will receive personalized, Princeton-specific advice on methods of learning, time and task management, overcoming procrastination, and tackling assignments, among other things. When you find yourself thinking, “How do I...?” know that McGraw is there for you.
WHAT DOES MCGRAW OFFER?

You can use all of these effective, cost-free, unlimited services designed for all students:

- **One-to-One Learning Strategy Consultations** (academic coaching)
- **Academic Strategy Workshops**
- **Study Hall Group Tutoring & Individual Tutoring**
- **Course-Specific Study Groups & Course Jumpstarts**
- **Digital Learning Lab**
- **Principedia** (Like Wikipedia, but about succeeding in Princeton courses.)
- **Resources, Handouts & Advice**

Visit our Virtual McGraw Preview to see videos about these programs and more. To learn more about when and why you might want to use our services, check out our guide for students, made in an engaging comic format.

HOW DO I USE MCGRAW SERVICES?

All McGraw services are offered virtually in Fall 2020. Some services, like Study Hall Group Tutoring, you can just drop in during the hours its offered, and Principedia and other resources are always available online. Other services, like learning consultations, workshops and Individual Tutoring, you sign up using our online scheduling system. In fact, you can sign up for workshops and learning consultations right now! (If you have difficulties, email mcgugrad@princeton.edu)

In addition to McGraw's website, look for our weekly email newsletter, LearnPrinceton, and regular flyers. You’ll learn about and be able to sign up for workshops, learning consultations, tutoring and other programs like Student-led Study Groups and Course Jumpstarts in the first week of the semester.

WHAT ELSE SHOULD I KNOW?

The McGraw Center regularly receives as many as 10,000 visits each year from Princeton undergrads and well over half of the class of 2023 worked with tutors and learning consultants and attended workshops. Nearly 20% of first-year students get academic coaching (learning consultations) at McGraw and the average effectiveness rating was over 94%. Literally 99% of students said they would recommend the workshops they attended. Your fellow Princeton students said this about their experiences with McGraw services:

- "Our learning consultation was super helpful, informative, and fun. I'm sure what I learned will help me not only this semester, but also for a long time from now."
- "This workshop makes you much more self-aware--the reason you procrastinate is not always what you think."
- “McGraw’s online resources helped me to organize the many parts of my project and to articulate my thoughts both visually and verbally.”
- "In my consultation, not only did I learn some extremely effective strategies which I am already using, I also found it very helpful to be able to talk and brainstorm freely."
- “Principedia is amazing! I used it to choose courses, figure out how to learn from lectures and prepare for the final.”
- “I don’t think I could have learned as much or got the grade I did without McGraw tutoring—THANKS!”