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What is
Peer Assisted Learning?

Peer Assisted Learning (PAL) is an academic support program designed to help students succeed in gateway courses or historically challenging courses. Through collaborative, peer-led study sessions, PAL improves student understanding of course content and enhances critical thinking skills. PAL is based on the extensive research and development of Supplemental Instruction at the University of Missouri-Kansas City.

How Does PAL Work?

- **Peer-led Study Sessions:** PAL sessions are led by trained PAL Leaders—students who have successfully completed the course and work closely with faculty to integrate content.

- **Voluntary and Free:** All students enrolled in an PAL-supported course can attend these sessions, which are completely optional.

- **Collaborative Learning:** Students actively participate in discussions, problem-solving, and collaborative learning strategies.

Why Faculty Should Encourage PAL Participation:

- **Improved Student Performance:** Data shows students who regularly attend PAL sessions tend to score higher on exams and final grades.

- **Reduced DFW Rates:** PAL can help reduce drop, fail, and withdrawal (DFW) rates by providing academic support at critical points during the semester.

- **Positive Classroom Culture:** PAL fosters a collaborative learning environment, encouraging students to engage with the material outside of class, which can lead to increased classroom participation and preparedness.

- **Feedback Loop:** PAL Leaders can offer insights on common student misconceptions, providing faculty with valuable feedback to address specific challenges in the classroom.

Key Benefits for Faculty

- Enhanced student engagement and retention.

- Opportunity to collaborate with PAL Leaders for tailored support.

- Evidence-based outcomes that show improved student success rates in PAL-supported courses.

JOIN TODAY!

For more information or to recommend your course for PAL support, contact:

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Let's work together to support student success!

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