Upcoming Events:

**Wednesday, February 5th:**
1st Year Scholars: Community Dinner and Study Abroad/National Student Exchange Presentation/Panel. From 6:00-8:00 PM at the NSU Ponderosa Room E.

**Friday, February 7th:**
Mentor applications and recommendations are due.

**Monday, February 17th:**
TSLC Community Conversations from 4:00-5:00 PM in the Mantor Hall Main Lounge. All Thompson Scholars are encouraged to attend. Featured Guest: UNK Graduate Studies.

**Wednesday, February 26th:**
Completed Mid-Semester Grade Check Forms are due to the TSLC office by 5 PM.

**Wednesday, February 26th:**
2nd Year Scholars: Interview Skills Presentation and Community Dinner with Alumni. From 6:00-8:00 PM in the NSU Ponderosa Room E.

**Wednesday, March 4th:**
1st Year Scholars: Undergraduate Research and Creative Activity Presentation and Dessert Social. From 6:30-8:00 PM in NSU Ponderosa Room E.

**Friday, March 13th:**
Last day to drop a full semester class with a “W” in lieu of a grade.

**Tuesday, March 17th:**
TSLC Community Conversations from 3:30-4:30 PM in the Mantor Hall Main Lounge. All Thompson Scholars are encouraged to attend. Featured Guest: Nebraska College of Law.

UNK Continuing Student Scholarships

The UNK Continuing Scholarships are scholarships for UNK students with a current GPA; these scholarships do not take into account your high school grades or activities. Last year UNK gave out scholarships to hundreds of students, with a combined value of over $1,000,000.

This sizeable fund is only accessible when you apply for the UNK Continuing Scholarships. If you fail to apply, no matter how outstanding your UNK grades are, you will not be considered for the money that is being given out through this program. To access the application, log onto your MyBlue and click the Continuing Student Scholarship icon that will be on the homepage. To apply for these scholarships, you fill out only one application, and then your application information is submitted to the many committees on campus who select the UNK Continuing Scholarship recipients.

UNK Continuing Scholarships provide a great opportunity to secure additional funding to pursue your education. You do not need to be at a certain academic level to apply; as long as you have an established UNK GPA, are currently enrolled, and will be registered for classes during the 2020-2021 academic year, you are eligible for these scholarships. If you have recently changed your major, or do so during the application process, please notify financial aid as this has an impact on the essay questions you are able to see during the application process. The applications are available beginning February 1st, and close on February 29th at 11:59:59 PM CST. If you have any questions, contact the Office of Financial Aid at (308) 865-8520 or visit their office in the Memorial Student Affairs Building (MSAB).
Student of the Week

Name: Robert Hansen

Hometown: Scottsbluff, NE

Major: Deciding

What is the best part about being a Thompson Scholar? Being part of a close-knit community.

What's a movie you can practically quote from start to finish? Cars.

What motivates you? My family.

What sound or smell do you love? The smell of a bakery.

Where is your favorite place to visit and why? Europe is a great place to visit because of its history.

What is one food that you would never give up? Italian food.

What do you binge-watch? YouTube.

If you could have a conversation with any historical figure, who would it be? Thomas Edison.

What are you obsessed with? Super Smash Bros. Ultimate.

What is the best book or series you have ever read? Harry Potter.

What do you wish you had more time for? Naps.

If you could have an all-expenses paid trip to see any famous world monument, which monument would you choose? The Jewish Holocaust Memorial in Berlin, Germany.

What are you grateful for? The Buffett Scholarship.

What is your greatest hidden talent/skill? I can read and write German very well and speak a little of it too.

Academic Success Habits To Practice

At mid-year, returning students may feel they have figured out how college works, and slack off on some basic academic habits. The mentality of doing “enough to get by” can result in students not working up to their potential, or worse, getting too far behind to earn the grades necessary for their scholarship requirements and other academic expectations. This can impact the long-term goal of reaching graduation in a timely fashion. Thus, the TSLC staff generated a list of reminders for students to incorporate into their habits this term.

- Go to class, no matter if it is required in the syllabus or not. Class should be a priority over “extra” vacation days and spring high school sports championships.
- Buy or rent your books. Don’t try to borrow them from a friend, or wait a month to get them via mail just to save a bit of money. Invest in you.
- Plan out your semester by writing your readings, assignments, tests, projects into your calendar. Use your calendar daily. Plan ahead to get tasks done by breaking them down into smaller sections so you don’t get overwhelmed. Complete everything by deadlines.
- Visit instructors during office hours. Ask for help when needed. Your questions aren’t dumb and they are here to help you.
- Create sleep and exercise habits that promote your wellness. When these areas of life are not made a priority, you may not be able to give your best efforts to your academics.
- Read your emails everyday. Respond if you are asked to do so.
- Seek assistance if you are having troubles. The TSLC staff, as well as other staff and faculty here at UNK are here to help. Whether you are having financial troubles, personal issues, or academic difficulties, there are many resources here at UNK to turn to. Be proactive by reaching out rather than bottling up the issues; this is a healthy coping skill that can help you reach a solution.
- Set a GPA goal for the term. Don’t hope for a grade; you must engage in reviewing the points offered in your class and calculate what you must do to earn the desired grade. Your end of term grades should never be a surprise.

Remember, no one comes to college with the plan to struggle or fail. Plan to do well by developing a disciplined academic routine and sticking to it. That doesn’t mean you won’t ever have difficulties, but it certainly lessens the efforts you have to make in terms of recovery.

TSLC Mentor Applications Due 2/7/20

The mentor position (2020-2021) is open to any Thompson Scholar who will be enrolled full-time at UNK during Fall 2020 and Spring 2021 (12+ credit hours) and have obtained sophomore academic status (more than 27 credit hours completed) by end of Summer 2020. At the time of application, preference for interviews will be given to students who have earned at least a 3.0 cumulative GPA; applicants who have earned below that cumulative GPA may not receive full consideration for an interview.

If you are interested in applying, please email Yao (zhengc1@unk.edu) to receive the application materials and instructions for securing recommendations. Applications and recommendations are due by Friday, February 7th, 2020, at 5PM to receive full consideration.