



Seawolf Soundbites

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AMCS is on the Move ...

As the start of the new school year fast approaches, the Alaska Middle College Program is on the move. In June, the program offices moved from the Anchorage Campus of UAA to King Tech High School. As part of this move, King Tech High School repurposed classroom space to create a Cyber Center to support AMCS instruction. Not only is there a new space for students, but new faces will also join the AMCS program this fall. The following staff is your support team for next year with current contact information. Please note, additional contact information will be shared as soon as offices are configured, and staff members arrive back on contract. Until then, emails are the most effective way to communicate with staff members.

Administration

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Program

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University of Alaska Anchorage

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Kicking Off 2020-21 School Year

The beginning of this academic year will be unlike all other startups. AMCS will be following district guidelines with adherence to conducting all courses, advisories, events and appointments via online. If the district gives clearance to return to face-to-face instruction, students will receive an opportunity to attend high school classes face-to-face or stay online. UAA is offering majority of classes online with very few face-to-face courses. Check your email inbox often to stay connected to our program and learn of updates as we navigate the impact of COVID.

AMCS Orientation August 20th and 21st

All new students need to attend an orientation to the program via zoom. This event runs from 8:30 am to noon. Attendance is mandatory, and students are expected to attend and participate in ALL sessions. Students returning to the program from last year are not required to attend. Please look for a UAA email with information on how to join Orientation.

All Classes start August 24th

All courses begin August 24th. For UAA courses you will login into Blackboard to access your courses. Whereas, high school courses (APEX and advisories), enter through Canvas.

Student Success Toolbox Series

AMCS is launching optional Friday student success seminars. These 75-minute sessions will focus on topics such as career exploration, college application and essays, how to take notes, classroom etiquette, stress management, etc. Look for an announcement after add/drop deadline for a schedule and link to register.

Technology and Transportation

High school classes and advisories requires connecting with instructors and other classmates via zoom. Students received an survey in their inbox asking what their technology and transportation needs are for the fall semester. Please complete this survey so we can ensure you have a Chromebook in hand before Orientation. Also, if you have a UAA class that requires face-to-face instruction, ASD will provide transportation.

Counselor Den

There is a lot of behind the scenes work going on in the counseling office. Ms. Andresen is updating grades, doing credit checks, and scheduling AMCS classes. If you're planning to take a class at your affiliate school, now is a great time to fill out your single enrollment form [Single Course Enrollment Form](#) and return it to Ms. Andresen.

This year, an attempt is being made to group students in advisories by cohort. That way students in the same UAA classes such as math and writing will have a group of students in their advisory that are taking the same course. The AMCS classes are filled in after the student meets with his/her UAA advisor. Since the UAA advisors do a great job communicating with AMCS, much of the scheduling

can be done based on their meeting with the student. Therefore, the AMCS counselor might not need to contact you about your child's schedule. The plan is to have schedules completed by Aug. 20th.

ACT and SAT

Students who are planning to take the [ACT](#) and/or the [SAT](#) should sign-up soon. Testing sessions might fill-up fast due to the cancellation of spring testing. It's important to note that some universities may have either altered or waived their testing requirements. If you know which schools you want to apply to, make sure you check their admissions criteria.

Fee waivers for the ACT/SAT are available for students who qualify for free- or reduced lunch. Additional criteria is listed at [College Board Waiver Information](#). The waivers are available from Ms. Andresen.

U Howls

The different types of courses and what to expect.

Online Flexible (asynchronous) courses are delivered in fully online formats that do not require specific meeting times. Students need to self- manage when they access lectures/course materials.

Online Structured (synchronous) courses are delivered in fully online formats that do require specific meetings times. Students need to login at certain times to access lectures/course materials.

Combination Online & Traditional (hybrid) courses are delivered in online and traditional (in person) formats that do require some specific meeting times in specific locations and require online engagement.

Traditional courses delivered in person that do require specific meeting times in specific locations. Traditional courses may still use online platform (Blackboard) for assignment submissions and course materials.

Arranged courses are delivered formats will arranged by the faculty and the students.

Important Troubleshooting Information

[UAA IT Services](#) use for technical support

[UA ELMO](#) use for resetting password or looking up username

UAA Closures Alerts

UAA will post all closures on [UAA Website](#); however, you can also get text messages by enrolling your phone number in the [UA Alert System](#). Enroll now to stay informed.

Upcoming Events

August

- 8/20 – New Student Orientation (online) from 8:30 am – noon
- 8/21 – New Student Orientation (online) from 8:30 am – noon
- 8/24 – AMCS High School and UAA courses begin
- 8/24 – UAA Add/Drop begins

September

- 9/4 – Last day to drop UAA classes
- 9/5 – UAA Withdrawal period begins
- 9/7 – Labor Day, no UAA or ASD classes

