

**M.O.S.A.I.C  
SCHOLARS  
PROGRAM**

**Class of 2025**

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# UCCS LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

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The University of Colorado Colorado Springs (UCCS) commits to acknowledging the land on which we reside. We honor our Native Indigenous communities past, present, and emerging, and recognize the original inhabitants and traditional guardians of what is now Colorado Springs.

We honor this land as the ancestral home of the ‘Nuuchiu’, which includes the Northern Ute, the Southern Ute, and the Ute Mountain Ute Peoples. The ‘Nuuchiu’ originally referred to Pike’s Peak as ‘Tava-kaavi’, or Sun Mountain, being the first peak of the Shining Mountains to see the sun’s rays.

We also recognize the many Indigenous Peoples in this region, including the Apache Nation, the Arapaho Nation, the Cheyenne Nation, the Comanche Tribe, and the Kiowa Tribe, and their historical and continuing relationships as stewards of this land.

Land acknowledgments do not exist in the past or as historical context. Colonialism is a current and ongoing practice, and thus we remain mindful of its present impacts. As an institution of higher education, we share the responsibility to actively listen, reflect, and center the histories and lived experiences of Indigenous Peoples.

In community, we will work to dismantle the tragic and oppressive systems that displaced Native Peoples and commit to promoting Indigenous visibility and re-indigenizing our spaces.

*1Nuuchiu is pronounced (New-chew), meaning “the people”  
2Tava-Kaavi is pronounced (Tah-vah Kaav), meaning “sun mountain”*





# COMMUNITY GUIDELINES

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- Aim to use "I" statements and share only your personal experience.
- Recognize, question, and lean into your learning edges/discomfort.
- Take responsibility for your own learning; avoid leaning on marginalized members for your education.
- Remember that ideas and opinions can be fluid. Challenge the Idea, not the Individual.
- Assume best intentions; Embrace accountability for your impact.
- Seek to understand and respect diverse opinions.
- Share the time so that everyone who wishes to share gets an opportunity.
- Avoid personal or side conversations while someone is sharing.
- Always ask and receive permission before sharing others' stories.
- What is shared here stays here. What is learned here leaves here.
- Challenge by choice. Practice self-care and exercise grace for yourself and others.
- Hate speech and discriminatory language and actions are not permitted. Those verbally and/or physically harassing others will be reported and told to leave today's program.

# FALL SCHEDULE

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## September

- **September 10th** - What It Means to be First Generation/BIPOC in University?
  - 12PM - 1PM in MOSAIC
- **September 19th** - Let's Talk About Majors and Minors (or Passion vs Transactional)
  - 12PM - 1PM in MOSAIC
- **September 26th** - Dorm Mates, Friends, and Classmates: Diverse Friendships in University
  - 2PM - 3PM in La Plata

## October

- **October 11th** - Professors, Classroom Culture, and Office Hours
  - 12PM - 1PM in MOSAIC
- **October 14th** - Meet and Greet with Clubs and Volunteer Organizations
  - 12PM - 1PM in Student Life

## November

- **November 6th** - Mental Health Stigma and Knowing When to Ask for Help
  - 2PM - 3PM in the Wellness Center Zen Room
- **November 21st** - End-of-Semester Potluck
  - 5PM - 6PM in MOSAIC



# SUMMER SCHEDULE

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## January

- **TBA** - Welcome Back Social
- **TBA** - New Semester Orientation (Check-In)

## February

- **TBA** - Intersectionality at College
- **TBA** - Scholarship 101 and Financial Literacy
- **TBA** - Resume Dinner

## March

- **TBA** - Field Trip to Denver Capitol Hill
- **TBA** - MSP End-of-the-Year Celebration

# COURSE DESCRIPTIONS (FALL)

**What It Means to be First Generation/BIPOC in University?** | This workshop introduces students to the benefits and empowerment of being first generation and/or a person of color at UCCS and how students can find community, funding, events, and more to enrich their academic careers.

**Let's Talk About Majors and Minors (or Passion vs Transactional)** | This workshop focuses on the students' freedom of exploring different majors and minors at UCCS and the differences between passion and transactional motivations to selecting your field of study (and why it's okay to just follow your interests/make money)

**Dorm Mates, Friends, and Classmates: Diverse Friendships in University** | This workshop brings up the conversation of relationships here at UCCS whether that is roommates, friends, and even classmates. How to navigate extremely diverse friendships where your buddies may come from different backgrounds, socio-economic standings, and cultures.

**Professors, Classroom Culture, and Office Hours** | This workshop helps students get more confident about building a better relationship with their professors and why it is so beneficial. Students will also learn about how to navigate classroom cultures including offensive comments made by peers and why office hours are extremely useful.



**Meet and Greet with Clubs and Volunteer Organizations** | Students will have a special meet and greet with club leaders and volunteer organizations at UCCS to help showcase the benefits of student-run groups, communities, and non profits (hint: it makes your resume look extremely inviting for employers).

**Mental Health Stigma and Knowing When to Ask for Help** | This dialogue circle will give scholars the opportunity to explore and talk more about their mental health and what resources UCCS and Colorado Springs can provide free of charge!

**End-of-Semester Potluck** | Come and celebrate the end of the semester with an MSP Potluck! Food, drinks, music, and good vibes are welcome. Chat with your fellow scholars, both new and old, and chill before December rolls around with those tough exams and the arrival of winter vacation.





# COMPLETION REQUIREMENTS

## How to Complete MSP

Students who wish to become a full-fledged participant of MSP must complete the following:

- Scholars must attend at least 5 workshops out of the 10 (across the entire year).
- Before completion: scholars must complete a short survey on the program and whether it met with their learning outcomes and expectations.
- If students cannot attend at least 5 sessions, they are welcome to attend 2 of ANY M.O.S.A.I.C and LGBTQ+ events or 2 MSP Study Hour Sessions to make up for it.

## After You Complete MSP

Students who successfully complete MSP will be:

- Scholars will be approved to be honored at FAM Graduation during their UCCS graduation year and will be gifted the MOSAIC Orange Stole for commencement
- Scholars will receive a special portfolio of all their work throughout the year
- Scholars will receive a certificate of completion from the MOSAIC and LGBTQ+ Office during the end-of-the-year celebration in March
- Scholars will be applicable to receiving a letter of recommendation from the MOSAIC office for future employment



# MSP STUDY HOURS

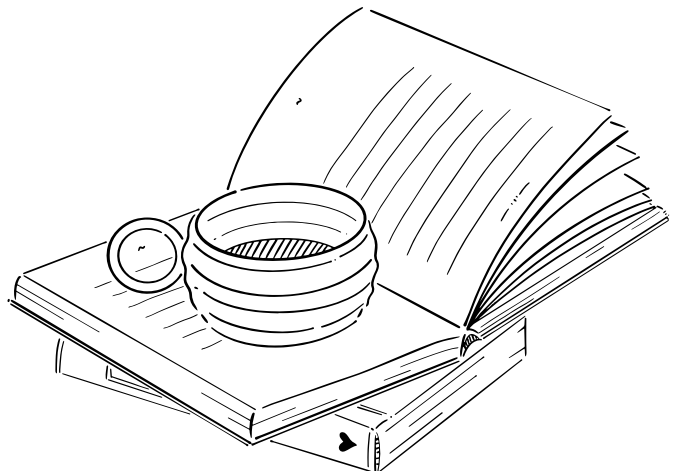
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The M.O.S.A.I.C Scholars Program understands the importance of study groups at university! If you do not have a group or would like to join one, MSP would like to offer open study hours for any members who like to stop in and study with music, coffee, and good company in the M.O.S.A.I.C. and LGBTQ+ Space!

MSP Study Hours will be **every Monday starting on September 16 from 5PM to 6:30PM in the M.O.S.A.I.C Lounge**. There will be coffee, tea, creamer, snacks, WIFI, and music for members staying after to study, play games, or just hang out.

There will also be alternative locations for the study group to meet in case M.O.S.A.I.C Lounge is occupied OR if there is a special occasion for the study group to move elsewhere. These recommended locations are:

- Kava Colorado (Tea/Coffee Shop on N Carefree Circle that closes at 12AM) - **Transportation Required; Off Campus Location**
- Upper UC by Big Cat Coffee
- Student Life Lounge
- Zen Room of the Wellness Center



# THE MOSAIC AND LGBTQ+ RESOURCE CENTER EST. 2003

The Multicultural Office for Student Access, Inclusiveness, and Community (MOSAIC) and the lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans, queer (LGBTQ+) Resource Center are student advocated support services designed to cultivate the holistic development of historically and currently marginalized students at UCCS. All UCCS students can expect ongoing programs, trainings and workshops, leadership development, intentionally designed resources, and active advising from the full-time staff.

**Mission** | Our mission is to provide holistic support through the advocacy, ongoing personal development, and community cultivation for historically and currently marginalized UCCS students.

**Vision** | Our vision for UCCS is a campus community committed to social justice, equity and equipped with the tools to craft their liberation.

**Core Values** | The MOSAIC and LGBTQ+ Resource Center considers the following core values as central to achieving our mission.

- **Community** | We cultivate a campus committed to connection, belonging, and respect through the elevation and support of cultural exploration and preservation.
- **Equity** | We aim to advocate for, create, and sustain opportunities focused on historically marginalized populations to close structural and systemic achievement gaps.
- **Inclusive Excellence** | We exemplify and teach active, intentional, and ongoing engagement with diversity to equip the community with sustainable best practices and tools for empathetic advocacy.
- **Ongoing Education** | We foster an environment for curiosity, collaboration, and diversity of thought to aid the lifelong liberatory learning and unlearning process.
- **Personal Growth** | We promote the holistic exploration of the self through intentionally designed enrichment for intellectual, spiritual, social, emotional, mental, environmental, financial, career, and physical growth that lasts a lifetime.



# WAYS TO CONNECT

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If you would like to get involved with M.O.S.A.I.C and LGBTQ+ Resource Center beyond the MSP Program, there are several ways to get involved!

**Volunteer** - We always welcome volunteers for any of our events and programming! Contact [Mosaic@uccs.edu](mailto:Mosaic@uccs.edu) to sign up!

**Internships/Practicum** - If you like to conduct an internship, you can come talk to us about working on a particular project.

**LGBTQ+ Resource Center** - We do Pride and LGBTQ+ focused events and programming all year around! Contact Rafael Norwood at [Rnorwood@uccs.edu](mailto:Rnorwood@uccs.edu) for more information.

**M.O.S.A.I.C. Center** - We do multicultural and heritage events and programming all year around! Contact Ale Ruiz at [aruiz@uccs.edu](mailto:aruiz@uccs.edu) for more information.

**First2Go Program** - We do first generation student events and programming all year around! Contact Ashley San Miguel at [asanmigu@uccs.edu](mailto:asanmigu@uccs.edu) for more information.



# PRE-SEMESTER SURVEY



Please fill out the small survey at the bottom and cut it out to hand over to Xuan at the end of orientation! This survey allows me to see what accommodations must be met in the program to make you as comfortable as possible.

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- What do you prefer to be called?
  - What pronouns do you use? (this question is optional)
  - Do you anticipate any difficulty making it to class on the dates we discussed?
  - How do you define success in a course for yourself?
  - How can I help you be successful in this course?