Student Spotlight

TRiO Student Support Services is excited to spotlight Jessica Pineda. She will be graduating this semester in Political Science & International Studies with a minor in Law studies and Linguistics. Since the fall of 2016, she has remained an active participant as well as an asset to the TRiO SSS team. When asked about her college experience, she stated, “my experience was great and fun, I had many opportunities that I tried to take advantage of and through them, I was able to see what I am made of.” Jessica finished both the Intercultural Engagement Certificate and Mini Law School Certificate, during her time at CU Denver. Along the way, she was able to manage three different internships as well, in order for her to receive the experiences that she wanted. During her undergraduate years she has been able to grow as a person, Jessica states “being a person who has always been shy and sheltered, I have been able to get out of my comfort zone and get involved like being the Vice-president of the STS club while in college.” As, Jessica began to get out of her comfort zone she was presented with many opportunities and she took positive advantage of them. Along with everything else she has done, she engaged in two different study abroad opportunities and participated in the Seton Hall United Nations Intensive Summer Program.

One of her fondest memories of college is the people that crossed her path, whether it was someone with similar interest as her or the opposite of her, she learned from these experiences. Many of these new people she has met have been from her experiences as a participant and working in TRiO SSS as a peer mentor. She has been able to meet students who like herself have struggled throughout their undergraduate degrees, and she has been able to help them.

When asked about one thing she wished she was told when she started her undergraduate experience was how to better manage her time and keep a good balance between work, school, and other responsibilities. Jessica also stated, “My ability to actually accomplish my goals and dreams and have someone to give me positive criticism to be able to improve on my work in order to complete my goals has been important.” She also stated “someone telling me what classes I should take that go towards my major and to have the right balance of courses has also been beneficial to my success.”

Jessica was asked how TRiO SSS has helped her, she responded, “TRiO has been there for me throughout my academic career, they have helped me grow and to understand my full potential. During my time in TRiO I have had great peer mentors and advisors that have helped me along my educational journey, TRiO has been very supportive to help me make sure that I succeed.” The advice she gives to other participants is, “to take a chance when they advise you to try out for something. One never knows where they will go without trying to see what they are capable of doing.”

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE...
As Jessica moves closer to graduating, she has created some short and long term goals. One of her short term goals within a year is to be able to pass all her classes and graduate. Jessica said, “I would also like to learn more before I graduate and to relax and not stress so much about things. I want to be able to have full control of my academic and social life.” She also mentioned, “I want to be able to enjoy my last semester of my undergraduate degree.” She has applied to the 4+1 Political Science program for graduate school and is now waiting to be accepted into the program. As far as, her long term goals, she wants to be in her graduate program and continue her studies into law school. She would also like to begin to look for employment in the United Nations. She also mentioned, “I would like to take advantage of more opportunities that are given to me. At a personal level, being able to spend more time with friends and family as my support system for me, is also important.” The TRIO SSS program wishes Jessica the best of luck in her continued success.

Hi, everyone!

My name is Samaria Stovall, and I am very excited to be a part of the TRIO SSS team as a student assistant. I am a double major in Psychology and Sociology and expect to graduate in May of 2020. If I am not spending time at my favorite library doing schoolwork or research, I am probably working out, taking my black lab Ravyn to the dog park, or spending quality time with my mom, friends, or boyfriend. In addition to a full-time course load and a Learning Assistantship in the Psychology department, I am a Reisher Scholar and a part of the amazing McNair Scholars Program. It has only been a few days of me working here, but I can already tell this is an amazing staff.

Thank you for welcoming me so warmly!
Valentine’s Day Activities

Giving your loved one special treats like chocolate and flowers will make their Valentine’s Day special. Finding fun ideas for Valentine’s Day in Denver will make it even better!

With the most romantic day of the year soon upon us, I wanted to give you some fun and unique ideas. Denver is a special city and there are many events and places to visit that are special too.

**Heart Potions from the Vine Tour**  
When: Feb. 8-10 and Feb. 13-15  
Location: Denver Botanic Gardens  
Price: $10-$14

What: Learn about the art and history of perfumery making, then blend your very own perfume or cologne to take home! You’ll also enjoy champagne, wine and hors d’oeuvres while you sniff and mix.

**Le Cours De L’amour 5k/10k/1m**  
When: Feb. 9  
Location: City Park  
Price: $15-$45

**Valentine’s Day 4-Mile**  
When: Feb. 10  
Location: Washington Park

What: Come run your heart out at Denver’s Valentine’s Day 4 Mile and Kids Run Fun. Meet Cupid and maybe find a sweetheart. Participants are encouraged to come dressed up as their favorite couple from a TV, movie, book etc.

**Hearts for Art**  
When: Feb. 11 – 15  
Location: Denver Art Museum

What: Show your love for fine art by placing a paper heart on the floor in front of your “artwork crush” at the Denver Art Museum’s Heart for Art 2019.

**Galentines Gathering: Yoga + Mala Making + Wine**  
When: Feb. 13  
Location: 1660 Champa St, Denver, CO 80202  
Price: $45

What: Valentine’s Day may be for lovers, but Galentine’s day – the day before – is all about female friendship! Grab your favorite group of girls and head to Wild Women Wine for a night of Yoga, mala making, and wine.

**Sex in the Sea**  
When: Feb. 14  
Location: Denver Museum of Nature & Science  
Price: $25

Vanessa Martinez | TRiO SSS Peer Mentor
The Chinese New Year is also known as the Lunar New Year or Spring Festival and the most important Chinese Holiday. It is defined as the first day of the month in the traditional Chinese calendar. Unlike the Gregorian calendar, which is based on a solar calendar that is celebrated in the West, the Chinese New Year is based on the traditional Chinese lunisolar calendar, which details dates that indicate both phases of the moon as well as the time of the year. Also, a lunar month is around two days shorter than a solar month, as such, in order to catch up with the Gregorian calendar an extra month is inserted every few years. This is why the solar calendar; the Chinese New Year falls on a different date each year.

The celebration begins on the New Year Eve and lasts around 15 days through the middle of the first month. Traditionally people clean their houses thoroughly before the celebration and display traditional New Year's decorations. The festivity is a time for family reunions, which is considered the most important part of the Chinese New Year celebration. The celebration is sometimes highlighted with a religious ceremony given in honor of heaven, earth, the family's ancestors and other gods.

In modern China, the Chinese New Year is celebrated as a public holiday, and working people usually enjoy 7 days of time off, including the weekend. Such time is spent participating in different activities, such as the family reunion and observation of certain traditions. Some modern Chinese families may make use of the public holiday as an opportunity to visit tourist destinations.

This year is the year of the Pig. The Pig is the twelfth of all zodiac animals in the Chinese zodiac. According to myth, the Jade Emperor said the order would be decided by the order in which they arrived at his party. Pig arrived late because her overslept, as he was the last one, he could only take twelfth place.

The Pig is also associated with the Earthly Branch, and the hours 9–11 at night. In terms of yin and yang, the Pig is yin. In Chinese culture, pigs are the symbol of wealth. Their chubby faces and big ears are signs of fortune as well. People born in the Pig year tend to be energetic, enthusiastic people who enjoy life, but are not wasteful spenders.


For more information please visit:
http://www.chinesenewyears.info/
https://chinesenewyear.net/zodiac/pig/

Jessica Pineda | TRiO SSS Peer Mentor
Black History Month

Black History Month is a time when the contributions and achievements of black people are celebrated and studied in schools and libraries across the nation. It is observed in the United States, Canada, and the United Kingdom. In the United States it is sometimes referred to as African-American History Month. The idea of setting aside a time to highlight black history was first introduced in 1926 by a historian named Carter G. Woodson. He picked a week in February near to the birthdays of Frederick Douglass and Abraham Lincoln. Over the next several years, the idea took hold at many college campuses and school districts throughout the nation. In 1976, President Gerald Ford officially recognized Black History Month and each president since has designated February as Black History Month.

The story of Black History Month begins in 1915, half a century after the Thirteenth Amendment abolished slavery in the United States. That September, the Harvard-trained historian Carter G. Woodson and the prominent minister Jesse E. Moorland founded the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History (ASNLH), an organization dedicated to researching and promoting achievements by blacks and other peoples of African descent. Known today as the Association for the Study of African American Life and History (ASALH), the group sponsored a national Negro History week in 1926. The event inspired schools and communities nationwide to organize local celebrations, establish history clubs and host performances and lectures.

The theme for this year’s celebration is Black Migrations. The Association for the Study of African American Life and History says the theme will focus on "the movement of African Americans to new destinations and subsequently to new social realities." ASALH’s 2019 theme, Black Migrations emphasizes the movement of people of African descent to new destinations and subsequently to new social realities. While inclusive of earlier centuries, this theme focuses especially on the twentieth century through today. Beginning in the early decades of the twentieth century, African American migration patterns included relocation from southern farms to southern cities; from the South to the Northeast, Midwest, and West; from the Caribbean to US cities as well as to migrant labor farms; and the emigration of noted African Americans to Africa and to European cities, such as Paris and London, after the end of World War I and World War II. Such migrations resulted in a more diverse and stratified interracial and intra-racial urban population amid a changing social milieu, such as the rise of the Garvey movement in New York, Detroit, and New Orleans; the emergence of both black industrial workers and black entrepreneurs; the growing number and variety of urban churches and new religions; new music forms like ragtime, blues, and jazz; white backlash as in the Red Summer of 1919; the blossoming of visual and literary arts, as in New York, Washington, D.C., Chicago, and Paris in the 1910s and 1920s. The theme Black Migrations equally lends itself to the exploration of the century's later decades from spatial and social perspectives, with attention to "new" African Americans because of the burgeoning African and Caribbean population in the US; Northern African Americans' return to the South; racial suburbanization; inner-city hyperghettoization; health and environment; civil rights and protest activism; electoral politics; mass incarceration; and dynamic cultural production.

For more information, visit the website of the Association for the study of African American Life and History at https://asalh.org/

Ranks Barima | TRiO SSS Graduate Assistant

The Lola & Rob Salazar Student Wellness Center

The spring 2019 semester is here! Start your wellness journey TODAY! The Wellness & Recreation Services will be providing several sessions. You can visit the Wellness page here. In addition, check out the information below.

**Meal Prep Mondays** | 2/4/19 | 4:00 pm—5:00 pm | Student Wellness Center Kitchen | Click to Register
**Cupcakes and Condoms** | 2/12/19 | 10:00 am—2:00 pm | Tivoli Multi Cultural Lounge
**Safe Sex is Sweet Sex** | 2/14/19 | 1:00 pm—3:00 pm | Student Wellness Center Lobby
**Meal Prep Mondays** | 3/4/19 | 12:30 pm—1:30 pm | Student Wellness Center Kitchen | Click to Register
**March Madness Viewing Party** | 3/21/19 | 3:00 pm—6:00 pm | Student Wellness Center Kitchen
**Meal Prep Mondays** | 4/1/19 | 12:00 pm—5:00 pm | Student Wellness Center Kitchen | Click to Register
Valentine’s Day Around the World

Chocolates, confessions, kisses, and plenty of tears: I can’t count the number of times I’ve seen a Valentine’s Day episode in anime… It sometimes feels like if it’s set in a school, then there must inevitably be an episode about that day of love, February 14…

In Japan, it is customary for only women to give chocolates to men, but girls giving to girls is okay too. Giving chocolates does not necessarily have to have romantic connotations attached, and the typical Western traditions of gift giving, dinner dates, flowers, and Valentine’s Day cards are not generally practiced. Instead, giving chocolate is serious business (if anime has taught me anything), and there are several “classes” that the giving of chocolates can fall under, such as shown below:

- **Obligation chocolate (giri-choko):** since many women can feel obliged or pressured to give chocolates to those who are neither friends nor loved ones, particularly with regards to male co-workers, obligation chocolate is given instead. It’s generally of a lower quality than the other chocolate types.

- **Favorite chocolate (honmei-choko):** presented to a loved one is generally of a higher quality than obligation chocolate. Confess to the person you love with this! Bonus points for handmade chocolates…

- **Friend chocolate (tomo-choko):** exchanged amongst friends, particularly between girls.

But, whoever you decide to give your chocolates to and regardless of what “class” they fall into, I’m sure your recipient (and you!) will enjoy today’s recipe for simple Valentine’s Day chocolates!

**The Recipe**

**Simple Valentine’s Day Chocolates**

Makes ~12 – 15 small chocolates

**Ingredients:**

- For the chocolate:
  - 4 oz. bittersweet chocolate, chopped
  - 1/2 cup heavy cream

- Toppings, flavorings, and fillings (optional):
  - Fruits: candied orange peel, candied ginger, orange zest, etc.
  - Liqueurs: rum, Cointreau, Kahlua, amaretto etc. (~ 2 tsp, to taste)
  - Toasted nuts: almonds, walnuts, macadamia nuts, hazelnuts, etc.
  - Candies: rock candies, dragee, sprinkles, etc.

**Directions:**

1. Place chopped chocolate in a heatproof bowl. Set aside. Place heavy cream in a small saucepan and set over medium heat. Scald the cream (small bubbles will appear along the sides of the pan, and the cream will heat without boiling).

2. Remove scald cream from heat and pour over the chopped chocolate. Mix together until smooth and glossy using a wire whisk. If desired, whisk in any zests, liquid flavorings, or chopped nuts at this point. Taste the chocolate and adjust the flavorings as needed.

3. Pour chocolate into molds. Decorate tops with nuts, or candies. Set aside in a cool area or in the refrigerator, undisturbed, for 6 – 8 hours, or until completely solid. Carefully remove solidified chocolate from the mold (if using a silicone mold).

4. Serve as is, or packaged in decorative boxes or bags, and presented to your sweet Valentine. For More information visit: https://itadakimasuanime.wordpress.com/2014/02/11/simple-valentines-day-chocolates/

For more information please visit: https://itadakimasuanime.wordpress.com/2014/02/11/simple-valentines-day-chocolates/

Kimberly Mata-Martinez | TRiO SSS Office Assistant
Open Lab Schedule with Vrajen Patel

Our TRiO SSS Graduate Assistant, Vrajen Patel is back for another semester. If you feel you can benefit from extra assistance in any of the courses below, be sure to stop by the office to discuss a tutoring time with Vrajen. Sessions will be held in the TRiO SSS Solution Rooms.

Availability
Monday: 9:00 am – 3:00 pm
Wednesday: 10:00 am – 5:00 pm
Friday: 10:00 am— 5:00 pm

Open-Lab Courses

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<tr>
<th>Basic Math to Calculus III</th>
<th>Linear Algebra</th>
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<tr>
<td>Basic Chemistry to Organic Chemistry</td>
<td>Biology up to Biochemistry</td>
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<tr>
<td>Physics I and II</td>
<td>Selected Engineering Courses</td>
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Society of TRiO Students Club

Hello STS Club Members,

I would like to cordially invite you to attend the upcoming STS Club events held in the month of February.

♥ General Meeting, Monday, February 4, 2019 from 3pm to 4pm in the Student Commons Building, Suite 2000. We will be discussing upcoming events, fundraisers, and other activities. There will be food.

♥ Valentine’s Social Event, Wednesday, February 13, 2019 in Student Commons Building, Suite 2000 from 2pm to 4pm. We will be doing DIY Valentine’s day cards, cookie decoration, games, music, and there will be food.

♥ Best, Your President—Cynthia

Kudos

Have an accomplishment? Please tell TRiO about it.
Inside the TRiO office, there is a sheet of paper for you to write share your accomplishments and awards you received.

♥ Monica Peniche, McNair Scholar received an interview for the Ph.D. program at the University of Florida.
♥ Jessica Luna has an interview scheduled on 2/1 for the CU Denver Doctorate of Education program.
♥ Judy Tran was hired in a research position with the Sociology Department.
♥ Norma Baz was selected as a TA for spring semester in an HDFR course.
♥ Sade Smith, Cristian Sarabia, and Alan Prieto made the Dean’s list for fall 2018.

Congratulations and great job on your hard work. Keep it up TRiO students and staff!
Hello TRiO students,

Congratulations to all of you who completed your participation requirements in fall 2018 and were eligible for the TRiO SSS Book Scholarship. You may have noticed that the scholarship was a bit smaller this semester. That is because we had a large number of participants complete eligibility requirements for the scholarship at 80 participants and most of you completed at full-time, so way to go, keep up the good work. As you know, one of the requirements for the Book Scholarship is to complete a Financial Literacy session. For those of you who registered last semester in Money 101 under the UCD/TRiO SSS 2018-19 group, you will not have to join a new group. You are still registered in the group this semester. All you have to do at this point is to go in there and complete a session. Remember, some of the financial literacy sessions in Money 101 have two parts, a head and heart section. For those sessions, you must complete both parts to get credit for completing a financial literacy session. The deadline for completing this requirement for the Book Scholarship to be awarded in fall 2019, is May 10, 2019. However, it won’t hurt to go in and complete this early.

For those of you who have not yet been accepted to the group, I will send you an invitation in the next week. Please click in and accept the invitation as soon as you see the invitation from College In Colorado, Money 101. If you are not a member of the UCD/TRiO SSS 2018-19 group, I cannot give you credit for completing a session, because I cannot get a report on your accomplishment if you are not registered in this group. For those of you who completed all the online Money 101 sessions, you can complete the Book Scholarship requirement by attending a Financial Literacy session in class, we will have some scheduled beginning in February and throughout the spring semester. However, there are not as many in class sessions this semester because the university financial literacy program is being moved over to the Wellness Center and they are still hiring staff for that position. Lesa Briggs will no longer be conducting those sessions for the university, but we are working with her to complete a few sessions for our TRiO SSS and McNair participants because she loves working with all of you, so be on the lookout for a few sessions with her this semester. We also have more opportunities for you to complete both workshop and financial literacy sessions this semester by attending our AMC campus visit, for those of you interested in the Health Sciences, on 3/15/19. Or we have a couple of graduate school visits to CSU scheduled this semester that will count for workshop and financial literacy credit. The first is part of a service learning project with Habitat for Humanity and a graduate school campus visit to CSU during spring break, Thursday and Friday 3/28 – 3/29/19. The last opportunity is a graduate school fair that CSU is sponsoring on Friday, 4/26/19, where other TRiO SSS & McNair participants from across the state are invited. Again, you can get both workshop and financial literacy credit if you attend these events.

On another note, our wonderful Project Specialist, Jennifer Nguyen has left us this semester. She has moved back to California where her family lives and although we are sad to see her go, we are happy for her future. She wanted you all to know that she loved working here and meeting our TRiO participants and she will miss you all. We are in the process of hiring a new Project Specialist and hope to have someone on board in early March. We also have a new student office staff, Samaria Stovall, who is a McNair Scholar and you will be hearing more from her in this edition of the newsletter. With all of that in mind, have a great semester everyone!

—Teresa De Herrera

"A healthy attitude is contagious, but don’t wait to catch it from others. Be a carrier." ~ Mike Jones
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| College Survival  
SC, Suite 2018  
12:30 pm—1:30 pm | Health Center:  
Physical Wellness  
Tivoli 444  
12:30 pm—2:00 pm  
Learning Styles  
SC, Suite 2018  
2:00 pm—3:00 pm | Financial Literacy:  
Please Don’t Take my Money!  
Lender Lessons  
SC, Suite 2000  
3:00 pm—4:00 pm  
Stress Less  
Tivoli 454  
4:00 pm—6:00 pm | International Opportunities  
Tivoli 267  
2:00 pm—3:00 pm |  |
| 11  | 12  | 13  | 14  | 15  |
| Time Management  
SC, Suite 2018  
12:30 pm—1:30 pm | MLA and APA Basics  
NC, 4002R  
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Scholarship Workshop  
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Time Management  
SC, Suite 2018  
2:00 pm—3:00 pm | Resume/Cover Letter Meetups  
Tivoli 267  
2:00 pm—3:00 pm  
Getting What you Want  
In Relationships  
Tivoli 454  
4:00 pm—6:00 pm | Financial Literacy:  
Budgeting  
SC, Suite 2000  
12:00 pm—1:00 pm  
Effective Revision  
NC, 4002R  
2:00 pm—3:00 pm |  |
| 18  | 19  | 20  | 21  | 22  |
| Procrastination  
SC, Suite 2000  
11:00 am—12:00 pm  
Effective Note-Taking  
SC, Suite 2018  
12:30 pm—1:30 pm | Professional Development:  
Effective Networking  
SC, Suite 2000  
10:00 am—11:00 am  
General Study Skills  
SC, Suite 2018  
2:00 pm—3:00 pm | Application Essays,  
Letters and Statement  
NC, 4002R  
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Food For Thought  
AAPI Discussion  
SC, Suite 2000  
12:30 pm—1:45 pm  
Resume/Cover Letter Meetups  
Tivoli 267  
2:00 pm—3:00 pm  
Peace of Mind  
Tivoli 454  
4:00 pm—6:00 pm | Financial Literacy:  
Managing your Finances  
SC, Suite 2000  
2:00 pm—3:00 pm | Graduate School:  
Personal Statements  
SC, Suite 2018  
9:30 am—11:30 am |
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| General Study Skills  
SC, Suite 2018  
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Professional Development:  
Job Search Tips  
SC, Suite 2000  
2:00 pm—3:00 pm | Time Management  
SC, Suite 2000  
11:00 am—12:00 pm  
Health Center:  
Emotional Wellness  
Tivoli 444  
12:30 pm—2:00 pm  
Avoid Procrastination  
SC, Suite 2018  
2:00 pm—3:00 pm | Graduate School  
Advising Session  
SC, Suite 2000  
12:00 pm—1:30 pm  
Lunch with Ms. Trisha Vasquez  
Pre-Health Session  
SC, Suite 2000  
1:00 pm—2:00 pm  
Resume/Cover Letter Meetups  
Tivoli 267  
2:00 pm—3:00 pm  
Managing your Mood  
Tivoli 454  
4:00 pm—6:00 pm | Effective Resumes/  
Cover Letters  
Business School, 3404  
2:00 pm—3:00 pm |  |

Mission Statement
The University of Colorado Denver TRiO Student Support Service Program is a holistic student development program that is dedicated to helping each student reach his or her full academic potential.

Learning Resources Center—Registration Required—RSVP at: https://forms.ucdenver.edu/secure/rsa_lrc_academic_development_workshop
Health Center at Auraria Wellness Sessions—Registration Required—RSVP at: http://www.healthcenter1.com
TRiO Financial Literacy Sessions: No RSVP Required
Counseling Center—Registration Required—RSVP at: https://forms.ucdenver.edu/secure/counseling_group
Career Center: RSVP via Handshake Portal
Writing Center: Registration Required—RSVP at: http://www.ucdenver.edu/academics/colleges/CLAS/Centers/writing/Services/Pages/StudentWorkshops.aspx
Asian American Student Services (Guest speaker and discussion centered around diversity, social justice, and identity): No RSVP Required
School of Public Affairs and TRiO SSS—Registration Required—RSVP at: http://bit.ly/2FXKXn
Pre-Health Advising Session (For Pre-Health Students): No RSVP Required.

Room Location Key: SC = Student Commons, NC = North Classroom | *Non-TRiO workshops are subject to change