**THREE-PART WEBINAR FOR LATINX STUDENTS AT UMASS BOSTON**

(In Spanish, with English subtitles)

SEMINARIO VIRTUAL EN TRES MODULOS PARA ESTUDIANTES LATINX DE UMASS BOSTON

(en español, con subtítulos en inglés)

Conceived and directed by:

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**INTRODUCTION:**

In Spring 2020, in our capacity as advisors and faculty, the three directors of this project witnessed an increase in Latinx students seeking emergency help and support. Problems reported were confusion over e-learning modalities; performance anxiety; difficulty communicating with professors, advisors, and peers; lack of internet, computer, and technology; lack of study space; depression; loss of income; and homelessness, among others. Our experienced showed that open, focused and personal collaboration between students, faculty and academic advisors worked well to identify, address and prevent academic, financial and social-emotional problems. Therefore, we resolved to share our knowledge and experience in these areas with all Latinx students. We identified three main areas of concern: financial, academic, and emotional.  With the support of a mini- grant from the Gaston Institute, UMB’s excellent Instructional Technology team (Rrezarta Hyseni, Gene Shwalb and Apurva Mehta) Psychologist Ana Fernández of the UMass Boston Counseling Center, and five students from the Department of Latin American and Iberian Studies (Lorián de la Hoz, Ferlisa Comas Soto, Darla Castaño and Henry Chavez) we combined our experience in advising, mentoring, teaching and being Latinx students, to produce this three-part webinar to support UMB’s Latinx students as they navigate the pandemic in Fall 2020 and beyond.

**DESCRIPTION:**

Each module consists of a video introduction followed by a Power Point presentation narrated in Spanish by a student (with English subtitles). Modules also contain direct student testimonies.  The first module addresses academic matters, the second module deals with financial matters, and the third module focuses on social and emotional matters.

**Module 1. Academic Success, Advising and Technology.**  [https://youtu.be/I7Rns-JACXc](https://nam10.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fyoutu.be%2FI7Rns-JACXc&data=02%7C01%7CReyes.Coll-Tellechea%40umb.edu%7C0d3d341edf774cb64c4508d8412bc9d2%7Cb97188711ee94425953c1ace1373eb38%7C0%7C0%7C637331003635378688&sdata=crQRBRDoUsuQ7b5wWT8c%2Bu2ZKFS6zaQ4UurYotl2tbs%3D&reserved=0)

UMass Boston is a large and complex institution. Initially, many students feel lost or overwhelmed by the drastic differences between High School or Community College and a 4-year University. This module provides important information and strategies to help students succeed academically at UMB, such as how the University is structures and organized; differences between Community College, High School and University; the importance and use of campus-wide systems such as WISER and the Degree Audit; the different types of courses and their expectations; what to expect about remote learning in Fall 2020, and the roles of professors and academic advisors, etc.

**Module 2. Financial Aid Matters.** [https://youtu.be/N03CLfOk1zs](https://nam10.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fyoutu.be%2FN03CLfOk1zs&data=02%7C01%7CReyes.Coll-Tellechea%40umb.edu%7C0d3d341edf774cb64c4508d8412bc9d2%7Cb97188711ee94425953c1ace1373eb38%7C0%7C0%7C637331003635388687&sdata=kzLnHQqIZhVJuqK6zerTyzndbHsiMIhngvLyCa2l8t8%3D&reserved=0)

Job insecurity and loss of income associated with Covid-19 are impacting the financial situation of Latinx students. It is more important than ever that students access clear, precise and targeted information on the internal and external financial support available to them during the pandemic and how to access it successfully. Topics include sources of financial aid, CARES Act, food support, unemployment, support for DACA/TPS and undocumented students, etc.

**Module 3. Emotional and Social Support at UMass Boston**.  [https://youtu.be/hITZh3W\_7eI](https://nam10.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fyoutu.be%2FhITZh3W_7eI&data=02%7C01%7CReyes.Coll-Tellechea%40umb.edu%7C0d3d341edf774cb64c4508d8412bc9d2%7Cb97188711ee94425953c1ace1373eb38%7C0%7C0%7C637331003635388687&sdata=fmtqltU0pOoWbdn3NIbMTgtnhhnfLI190ln5HD7pdEM%3D&reserved=0)

This module presents strategies for team-building, so that Latinx students can build their own support network at UMB. Topics include why, how, and where to find counselors and mentors; the role of peers, centers, and student organizations in students’ mental health; signs of stress; strategies to seek emotional support; and how to communicate with professors, advisors, and administrative offices.