



My name is Kourtney Dean and I am a senior Speech-Language Pathology major/ Deaf Studies minor here at Nevada State College. I am originally from Saint Louis, Missouri, but moved here just after graduating high school. I have been working in the Course Assistant Program in various roles since 2016. I started as an English Course Assistant and went on to become a Course Assistant Peer Mentor, working to support Course Assistants in the program. One of the things I focus on heavily through my mentorship is the importance of self-care. Many times, student workers teach the students they serve about self-care and forget to practice it themselves. So, it is important to me as an experienced student worker and mentor that I emphasize the importance of regularly practicing

self-care. Many of our beginning student workers struggle a lot with balancing their work, academics, family lives, and other responsibilities, and I try to help them navigate those struggles. I try to never tell student workers what I think they should do, instead I try to ask them questions that can lead them to their own solutions.

I am currently completing my clinical practicum with Clark County School District, and will be concluding my bachelor's coursework this December. I plan to work in the schools as a Speech-Language Pathologist for a while, then pursue my Master's degree in the field. Though I am generally very busy with coursework during my practicum, I still manage to remain active on campus as the Vice-President of Nevada State's Black Student Organization.