SAT Prep Matters course begins Sept. 8 at UMaine Hutchinson Center

Belfast, Maine — Preparation for the Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) will be the focus of four weekly classes at the University of Maine Hutchinson Center beginning Sept. 8.

The course, taught by Mary Smyth, will be held Sundays, 1 p.m.–4 p.m. Prep Matters is designed for high school sophomores and juniors who plan to take the SAT in the fall of 2019.

The recently redesigned SAT now has two scores — verbal skills and math. According to the College Board, to be able to attain at least a C in a non-remedial college math class, a student must score 530 out of 800 on the math section of the SAT. However, only about 40 percent of high school students can do so.

“It is important that students understand that they need to work for a semester, not just cram at the last minute for one test,” says Smyth, who has been teaching algebra through calculus at Watershed School in Camden for over a decade, and has coached SAT prep for 14 years. Smyth is a retired pediatrician and a local expert on college admission testing. She has tutored students for the SAT, ACT, SAT subject tests and AP calculus exams, many of whom went on to earn scores of 800.

According to a parent of one of Smyth’s students: “Mary is the ultimate SAT coach — intelligent, patient, funny and, most importantly, she knows the SAT inside and out. Thanks to Mary’s coaching, my daughter’s score dramatically improved from the PSAT to the SAT, and she now understands concepts that were confusing to her before. I highly recommend Mary Smyth to anyone looking to improve their SAT score.”

The cost is $250 per student for a four-week course in preparation for the verbal, math and essay portions of the test. A limited number of scholarships are available.

For more information, or to request a scholarship application or a reasonable accommodation, contact Allison Small, 338.8004; allison.small@maine.edu.
About the University
The University of Maine, founded in Orono in 1865, is the state's land grant and sea grant university. As Maine's flagship public university, UMaine has a statewide mission of teaching, research and economic development, and community service. UMaine is among the most comprehensive higher education institutions in the Northeast and attracts students from Maine and 49 other states, and 62 countries. It currently enrolls 11,404 total undergraduate and graduate students who can directly participate in groundbreaking research working with world-class scholars. UMaine offers more than 100 degree programs through which students can earn graduate certificates, master's, doctoral or professional science master's degrees. The university promotes environmental stewardship, with substantial efforts campuswide aimed at conserving energy, recycling and adhering to green building standards in new construction. For more information about UMaine, visit umaine.edu.