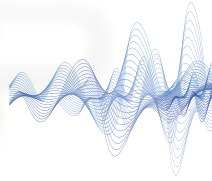




SIGNALS



Higher Education. For Adults With Higher Expectations.®

Students Can Now Access Financial Aid via Online Student Services

STUDENTS WHO QUALIFY FOR FINANCIAL AID ARE NOW ABLE TO ACCESS AND ACCEPT THEIR FINANCIAL AID AWARDS VIA THE ONLINE STUDENT SERVICES PORTAL

Our new procedure alerts qualified students via e-mail and enables them to instantly activate financial aid funding and proceed directly to enrolling in courses – all within the Online Student Services portal,” said James Owens, director of Financial Aid. “This means students will no longer have to wait to process their financial aid award notifications via postal mail.”

Owens said e-mail messages to eligible students include instructions on accessing their financial aid award via the Online Student Services portal. Included in the instructions are the steps required for students to accept or reject their financial aid awards and ensure their eligibility. The e-mail instructs students who qualify for financial aid to:

- ▶ Log into “Online Student Services” by clicking on the link provided
- ▶ Once logged in, click on the “Available Student Services” tab on the right of the screen
- ▶ On the next screen, under the “Financial Aid” section, click on the “Accept or Reject my Financial Aid Awards” link
- ▶ Select the appropriate award year from the dropdown and click the “Submit” button
- ▶ On the next screen, students have the option to view each individual term and award type and accept or reject the awards as listed, or they can simply choose the “Accept All” option

Students must choose from either the Comprehensive or Per Credit (Enrolled Options) tuition choices. Students can learn more about these two programs through

the above mentioned e-mail or by visiting www.tesc.edu/tuition.

“To be eligible for federal financial aid, students must be registered in the Online (OL) and/or Guided Study (GS) courses in the terms that appear on the ‘Confirm Financial Aid Awards’ screen,” noted Owens. “Federal Direct Loans and Pell eligibility requirements will be included in the instructions in your e-mail.”



James Owens, director of the Office of Financial Aid

After accepting the awards, Owens added that students may return to the “Available Student Services” page within the Online Student Services portal, where they can immediately register and pay for courses. For more information on financial aid or to fill out a financial aid application, visit www.tesc.edu/finaid.

Not sure how to access Online Student Services? Visit www.tesc.edu and click on “Current Students” for more information or call (888) 442-8372. ■

COURSE NEWS

Note: A complete listing of all undergraduate courses and their availability may be found on the College website at www.tesc.edu/courses.

NEW ONLINE COURSES:

FIN-321-OL
Financial Institutions and Markets

HUM-101-OL
Introduction to the Humanities I: Philosophical Thought

HUM-102-OL
Introduction to the Humanities II: Drama, Poetry and Narrative

HUM-103-OL
Introduction to the Humanities III: Music

HUM-104-OL
Introduction to the Humanities IV: Fine Arts and Architecture

NUC-365-OL
Reactor Fundamentals

NUR-721-OL
Nursing Informatics: Seminar in Practicum I

PSG-101-OL
Theoretical Fundamentals of Polysomnography

PSG-102-OL
Instrumentation Theory

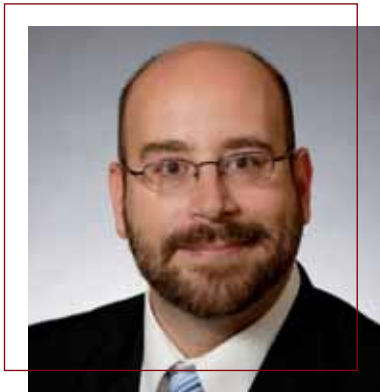
PSG-103-OL
Polysomnography Scoring

PSG-104-OL
Sleep Disorders

The Heavin School of Arts and Sciences Announces Programs in Teaching and Educational Leadership

FOUR PROGRAMS THAT FIT YOUR BUSY LIFESTYLE CAN PAVE THE WAY TO PRE-K-12 TEACHING AND BEYOND

The Heavin School of Arts and Sciences now offers four programs designed exclusively for adults interested in becoming teachers or educational leaders. The programs range from a new partnership with New Pathways to Teaching in New Jersey (NPTNJ) that enables students to become teachers via the Alternate Route to Teaching Program, to graduate programs in educational leadership and online learning and teaching.



Dr. Adrian Zappala, assistant dean for Educational Leadership at Thomas Edison State College

"This suite of degree and certificate programs enables qualified individuals and busy adults to become teachers, educational leaders and online instructors without having to complete a traditional, campus-based program," said Dr. Adrian Zappala, assistant dean for Educational Leadership at Thomas Edison State College.

Below is a list of the programs that are now being offered.

▶ ALTERNATE ROUTE TO TEACHING PROGRAM

The Alternate Route to Teaching program is made possible through a partnership with the New Pathways to Teaching in New Jersey program (NPTNJ) developed through a collaboration between New Jersey's community colleges and New Jersey City University. Thomas Edison State College offers a bachelor's degree completion program designed exclusively for adults interested in obtaining their teacher

certification through the NPTNJ program. The partnership combines the College's expertise in offering high quality, flexible degree completion programs with a nontraditional teacher training program approved by the New Jersey Department of Education.

▶ MASTER OF ARTS IN EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP DEGREE

The Master of Arts in Educational Leadership degree provides teachers with the preparation needed for school supervisor, principal and chief school administrator (superintendent) endorsements. Students may select from two areas of study within the program: Building Leadership and District Leadership. The online program conforms to national Interstate School Leaders Licensure Consortium (ISLLC) standards.



“ This suite of degree and certificate programs enables qualified individuals and busy adults to become teachers, educational leaders and online instructors without having to complete a traditional, campus-based program. ”

▶ MASTER OF SCIENCE IN MANAGEMENT DEGREE

The Master of Science in Management degree in School Business Administration is a new degree program developed in collaboration between the Heavin School of Arts and Sciences and the School of Business and Management. The program is uniquely positioned for adult learners seeking to enter roles as School Business Administrators in pre-K-12 school districts across an array of educational settings. The program's curriculum encompasses school law, fiscal planning, developing community synergies, technology for instruction and leadership, and district-level administrative leadership.

▶ GRADUATE CERTIFICATE IN ONLINE LEARNING AND TEACHING

The Graduate Certificate in Online Learning and Teaching program focuses on developing online pedagogy for those preparing to teach online and can augment a Master of Arts in Liberal Studies degree. The certificate offers a fresh skillset that students who have completed the program say has made them much more marketable in the shifting environment of instructional delivery. The 12-credit program is offered completely online and transfers easily into the Master of Arts in Liberal Studies degree program at Thomas Edison State College.

For more information, e-mail heavin@tesc.edu. ■

Thomas Edison State College Graduates Have Highest CPA Exam Pass Rates among Peer Institutions

GRADUATES HAVE THE HIGHEST PASS RATES FOR THE UNIFORM CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT (CPA) EXAMINATION AMONG ALL REGIONALLY ACCREDITED SENIOR INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION IN NEW JERSEY THAT OFFER ACCOUNTING PROGRAMS

According to the National Association of State Boards of Accountancy's 2010 candidate performance report, 61.5 percent of Thomas Edison State College graduates who took the Uniform CPA Examination in the calendar year 2009 passed the exam, which is more than 10 percentage points above the next highest pass rate for graduates of a regionally accredited, senior institution of higher education in New Jersey that offers an accounting program.

"We are thrilled to see outcomes that demonstrate the rigor of our accounting programs," said Dr. Susan P. Gilbert, dean of the School of Business and Management at Thomas Edison State College. "Our programs ensure competence in financial, managerial and cost accounting, analyzing earnings performance and auditing, and meet the unique needs of adult learners who often

manage their careers and families while earning a bachelor's or a master's degree."

"I am not a bit surprised at the College's CPA pass rate results," said Abraham Goldenberg, a Certified Public Accountant from Lakewood, N.J., and 2009 graduate of Thomas Edison State College. "As I studied for the CPA exams, I found that I had already covered much of the material through my course work at Thomas Edison State College and felt at home with the topics." Goldenberg, who earned his Bachelor of Science in Business Administration degree in accounting, is also a Certified Fraud Examiner and Certified Internal Auditor.

The report includes the results of graduates from more than 20 public and private colleges and universities in New Jersey.

Thomas Edison State College has recently

developed a new graduate-level area of study in accounting that is now offered under its Master of Science in Management (MSM) degree, which focuses on organizational leadership and integrates management theory and practice as they apply to the accounting industry.

The College's CPA and Master's Option provides an affordable, flexible method of earning the 30 additional credit hours needed to become a CPA and enables candidates to earn a master's degree at the same time.

"Thomas Edison State College enables busy adults to earn up to 6 credits for passing the CPA exam, which we can apply toward our MSM degree," said Gilbert. "This allows students to enroll and complete the MSM program and earn the remaining 30 credits they need for certification." ■

College Earns Innovation Award

NATIONAL UNIVERSITY TECHNOLOGY NETWORK HONORS COLLEGE WITH 2011 DISTANCE EDUCATION AWARD

Thomas Edison State College has been selected by the National University Technology Network (NUTN) to receive its 2011 Distance Education Innovation Award for the development of the FlashTrack® course delivery system, which delivers entire courses to students via a flash drive and does not require a constant Internet connection.

"While so many in distance education are rushing to translate course work for mobile devices, this program makes a great argument for mobile accessible courses via a flash drive," said Dr. Mel Muchnik, chair of the NUTN 2011 Awards Committee. "The innovation seems easy to use and comprehensive in terms of addressing students' needs."

Muchnik noted that this year the distance education innovation category was the most competitive in NUTN's history. The award will

be presented to the College at NUTN's 29th annual event, Network 2011, in Fort Worth, Texas, on Sept. 27.

The College launched its first generation of flash drive-based courses in spring 2009, which the College named FlashTrack® courses. Later that year, the College received a two-year grant from the U.S. Department of Education's Fund for the Improvement of Postsecondary Education (FIPSE) that helped accelerate the deployment of a second generation of FlashTrack® courses launched in 2010.

"We created FlashTrack® to serve students who needed to access their entire course as well as the computer programs required to complete the course," said Matthew Cooper, director of Instructional Technology and Instructional Design and Development at

Thomas Edison State College and lead developer of FlashTrack®. "Utilizing the flash drive, we are able to deliver the course, all course materials and all the software needed to complete the course via a portable, removable device that is not dependent on having an Internet connection or even owning your own computer."

The second generation FlashTrack® courses contain a similar structure and functionality of the College's typical 12-week, asynchronous online courses, but without the need for a constant online connection. Students need an Internet connection only to submit assignments. The actual course work can be completed offline.

To find out more about FlashTrack® and all of the College's methods for earning credit, visit www.tesc.edu. ■

W. Cary Edwards School of Nursing Student Earns Scholarships

MSN STUDENT GARNERS ATTENTION IN THE REHABILITATION FIELD

Adele McCloskey, RN, BSN, CRRN, a certified rehabilitation nurse, is one step closer to her Master of Science in Nursing degree thanks to her hard work and an infusion of scholarship money. The W. Cary Edwards School of Nursing BSN alum, is the recipient of a \$1,000 scholarship from the Association of Rehabilitation Nurses' (ARN) Southern New Jersey Chapter, and a \$500 scholarship from Bayada Nurses of Moorestown, N.J. McCloskey said the proceeds have helped to defray the costs of her tuition and textbooks.



Adele McCloskey, RN, BSN, CRRN

course that I have taken has helped me grow both professionally and personally. I learn from my readings, my classmates and my assignments, and, for me – though the online course work has its challenges – transformation occurs on a weekly basis.”

ARN scholarship candidates must be currently enrolled students in good standing in their degree program and have a minimum of two years' experience in the field of rehabilitation nursing. Bayada, for whom McCloskey served as a pediatric nurse, awards scholarships to their eligible nurse employees

to encourage educational growth and professional development.

“My experience at Thomas Edison State College has been consistently positive,” noted McCloskey, currently a nurse educator at Weisman Children's Rehabilitation Hospital in Marlton, N.J., who is slated to begin her new position as director of Special Services for Horizon NJ Health in Trenton in the fall. “The College's learning platform is extremely flexible and the idea of not having to travel to class is really a plus for me. The online Discussion Board sessions, the mentoring and the assignments all play a part in the success of the program. Every

W. Cary Edwards School of Nursing Dean Dr. Susan M. O'Brien, who provided a letter supporting McCloskey's candidacy, commented, “It is fitting that Adele was awarded these scholarships. Her spirit and initiative, in both her professional life and as a student, make her an ideal recipient. We are very proud of her accomplishments.”

To find out more about programs at the W. Cary Edwards School of Nursing, visit www.tesc.edu/nursing. ■

NJCBA Honor Society

The New Jersey Collegiate Business Administration Association (NJCBA) inducted two Thomas Edison State College students, Caryne Adams and Kelvin Andrews, into its statewide honor society on May 6, 2011. The purpose of the NJCBA is to recognize undergraduate students who have excelled in their studies in business education. Honorees represent the top



Student Caryne Adams is pictured with School of Business and Management assistant deans, Camilla King-Lewis and Alicia Malone.

1 percent of business students in their respective colleges and schools.

Established in 2003, the NJCBA Honor Society annually honors students who: are pursuing associate or bachelor's degrees in business; have completed a minimum of 35 percent of course work from the nominating institution and are in good standing with at least 70 percent of their degree program completed. ■

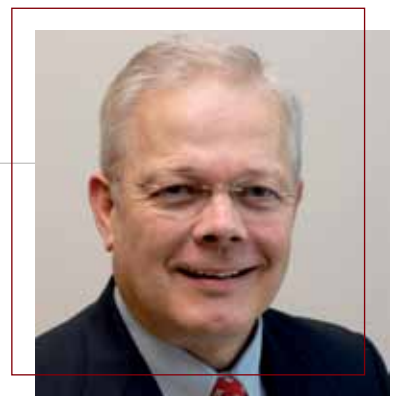
Late Assignment Policy

STUDENTS ARE URGED TO FOLLOW THE DATES POSTED IN THEIR COURSE CALENDAR

Students enrolled in the College's courses are asked to submit their written assignments no later than the due date posted on their Course Calendars unless prior arrangements are made with the mentor and a new assignment due date is established. The policy, which took effect on July 1, 2011, specifies that if a student submits a written assignment or Discussion Board posting after the due date without having made alternative arrangements with the mentor, a minimum of 5 points (based on an assignment grading scale of 100 points) or 5

percent of the total points will be deducted for each week the assignment is late.

“Our adult learners can stay on track with their course work by consulting their syllabi and calendars on a weekly basis,” said Dr. Ray Young, associate vice president and dean of Learner Services. “These materials provide an overview of the course and due dates for submitting assignments, posting discussions and scheduling and taking examinations. Students who find they are struggling to meet their course objectives and assignment deadlines are urged to consult with their



Dr. Ray Young, associate vice president and dean of Learner Services

mentor as soon as possible or apply for a Course Extension.” To find out more about requesting a Course Extension, visit www.tesc.edu or call (888) 442-8372. ■

John S. Watson School of Public Service and Continuing Studies Launches New Area of Study with a Sense of Community

Gloria Frederick, PhD., curriculum chair, content expert and mentor for the newly launched Community and Economic Development course at the John S. Watson School of Public Service and Continuing Studies, is finding much to be enthused about in the new area of study under the School's Master of Science in Management: Public Service program. We discussed the program's strengths with her recently and what she hopes learners will take away from their course work.

Q: Do you think the College's existing course delivery methods and the nature of our adult learners are well-suited for the Community and Economic Development area of study?

A: Absolutely. The field of community development is with us daily. When we see housing development, economic development projects or residents attending a public hearing, we are seeing community development in action. Many adult learners are already active citizens who bring practical experience to the theory and foundation of community development. By its very nature, the online learning platform and related discussion boards provoke collaboration among students seeking to share their professional views and examine the solutions they might have at their disposal.

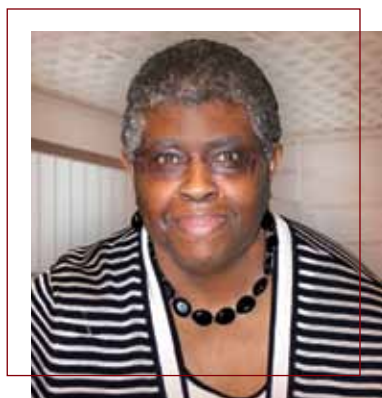
Q: From your perspective as a professional as well as curriculum chair what do you find most exciting about your course and the launch of this program?

A: The Community and Economic Development course will begin with some perspectives on early community development precursors and survey community development policies, processes and practice, and change through leadership and tools. We conclude

our journey by taking a look at global aspects of community development and some of the inherent challenges and limitations. This survey course brings together various aspects of community development, all of which will be presented in more detail in subsequent courses under the area of study. As a practitioner with more than 30 years of experience, I am excited to share what has been a wonderful journey of discovery with others.

Q: What type of course structure can students expect?

A: We'll learn from each other with online discussions, case studies and projects, personal interviews with practitioners, live chats and much more. Students will be able to enter their thoughts on a blog sponsored by a community development practitioner. My initial advice for students for successful completion of the work would be to pay attention to the Course Calendar and the reading assignments once the term is underway. If this is your first distance education course, review the syllabus carefully. My office hours will be posted to ensure that the learners can stay in touch with me should there be questions or concerns.



Gloria Frederick, PhD

Q: What can you tell prospective students about employment growth in the sectors of urban and economic development, land use, municipal finance and grant writing?

A: There is a wonderful book that I recommend: *A Guide to Careers in Community Development* by Brophy, Shabecoff, Peirce and Steinbach, which offers background on existing fields in community development as well as the emerging fields connected with environmental issues, sustainability, health-care and education. Issues surrounding poverty continue to confound us, but there are some things we do know. We know, for

example, that the need for innovative and creative leadership is vital to the health of our communities. The solutions are as unique for each community as the individuals who live in them.

Q: Tell us in what ways working professionals might find a career in community and economic development rewarding or lucrative.

A: At one time the creation of affordable housing was one of primary activities for community development. Current thinking espouses a more all-encompassing approach to community development. As a consequence, professionals in this field are found in all levels of our society, creating capital for projects, developing alternative approaches to education and community health and revitalizing downtown districts. Professionals can be found at all levels as planners, consultants, information technologists and activists.

Frederick has a PhD in public administration with an emphasis in faith-based community development and a Master of Arts in public administration from Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey. She earned her Bachelor of Arts from North Carolina Central University in political science and has studied urban geography at the University of North Carolina in Charlotte and earned a certificate in Distance Learning from the University of Wisconsin. Professionally, Frederick has spent 28 years with the N.J. Department of Community Affairs. During that time she was appointed by the governor to head the Neighborhood Preservation Program and the Office of Neighborhood Preservation. She has taught community development at Rutgers University and faith-based community development at the New Brunswick Theological Seminary. At Rutgers, she was co-founder of the Institute for Diversity in the Division of Continuing Studies. With the help of her friends, she has recently created a nonprofit, the Institute of Wonderful Women Working for Empowerment, for which she serves as executive director.

To find out more about the Master of Science in Management: Public Service careers area of study, visit www.tesc.edu/watson. ■

Is a Second Degree for You?

By Todd Siben
Senior Program Advisor

MANY STUDENTS FIND AN ADVANTAGE IN EARNING A SECOND ASSOCIATE OR BACHELOR'S DEGREE. FIND OUT IF THIS STRATEGY CAN WORK FOR YOU.

There are many valid reasons for pursuing a second college degree. If you have already earned a bachelor's degree with a weak grade point average (GPA) for instance, and now want to apply to graduate school or for a position where your GPA is taken into consideration, earning a second degree with an improved GPA can strengthen your qualifications.

You may also possess credits from a college degree earned years ago but now find yourself preparing for a career change. In updating your skill set, it often makes good sense to earn credits toward a second or subsequent degree.

Bear in mind that in planning your subsequent degree, an associate degree may be adequate. Many students

find, for example, that complimenting an existing BA degree in the liberal studies area with an associate degree in computer science or business administration can be a valuable strategy.

Students often ask if they need to complete another entire degree in order to update their existing qualifications. The answer is no. An assortment of new credits in a specific subject area could satisfy this need without working toward an additional degree. This post-baccalaureate credit, once listed on your college transcript, can augment your professional credentials and strengthen your résumé.

It is important to note that Thomas Edison State College requires that students earn a minimum of 24 "new credits" toward their major area of study when completing a second degree. When you begin earning those credits is also important. "New credits" are defined as credits earned after official completion of a previous degree. This means that you should not begin course work toward your second degree until after the date printed on the

diploma of your first degree. For instance, if I completed my course work in April, applied for graduation and was awarded a bachelor's degree in June, I would need to wait until July 1 to begin course work toward my next degree.

For busy adults, the College's online courses, TECEP® exams and Prior Learning Assessments (PLA) offer a perfect opportunity to obtain additional credits without the time and place constraints associated with traditional classroom courses.

For other students it may make more sense to pursue a graduate degree. Graduate-level courses help working professionals develop higher levels of knowledge, stronger critical thinking, analytical and leadership skills. Our

graduate degrees require 36 credits for completion – and the good news is your second bachelor's degree credits can be integrated. The 24 "new" credits, if taken at the graduate level, will satisfy two thirds of your graduate degree requirements.

Still have questions about a second degree? Perhaps this is a good time to speak with an academic advisor. Visit www.tesc.edu/currentstudents to schedule an appointment. ■



Todd Siben, Senior Program Advisor



Thomas Edison State College Announces New Noncredit Professional Certificates

Recently launched professional certificates available through the John S. Watson School of Public Service and Continuing Studies focus on allied health and are built around the unique needs of adult learners.

► MEDICAL OFFICE ASSISTANT SPECIALIST

This one-year certificate teaches students new job skills, refines existing healthcare knowledge and prepares students to sit for the NHA national certification exam to become a Certified Medical Administrative Assistant (CMAA).

► MEDICAL TRANSCRIPTION

This one-year certificate provides students with a working knowledge of medical reports and prepares students for the AHDI national certification exam to become Registered Medical Transcriptionists (RMT).

► MEDICAL TRANSCRIPTION EDITOR

This one-year certificate provides knowledge and skills characteristic of high-quality medical transcriptionists and medical transcription editors and prepares students for the AHDI national certification exam to become Registered Medical Transcriptionists (RMT).

► MEDICAL BILLING AND CODING SPECIALIST

This certificate provides an overview of CPT and ICD-9-CM coding and prepares students for a challenging career in this critical allied health field and prepares them to gain the knowledge and skills required to pass the national certification exams.

► PHARMACY TECHNICIAN

This certificate is designed for those who want to be a part of a rapidly growing industry and prepares students to earn national certification, such as a Certified Pharmacy Technician (CPT), through the Pharmacy Technician Certification Board.

From personal fitness training to paralegal studies, Thomas Edison State College offers a wide range of noncredit programs to help you advance your career or start a new one.

Visit www.tesc.edu/noncredit to learn more. ■

College Prepares for Launch of Refreshed Website

CHANGES BASED ON STUDENT FEEDBACK

This fall, Thomas Edison State College will be unveiling a refreshed design of its website, www.tesc.edu. The refreshed design is based on student feedback collected during the College's latest usability testing by students.

Some of additional key changes made that were recommended by students include:

- ▶ Internal page navigation links have been moved from the right side of the screen to the left side;
- ▶ Online *College Catalog* has been reorganized to help students locate information easier;
- ▶ Current Students page has been redesigned to provide links to more student resources and transformed into one of the main sections of the website;
- ▶ A link to myEdison® has been added to the top of the homepage; and
- ▶ Mega menus have been added to the website, which enable students, alumni and other visitors see what content is in each main section of the website.

A video reviewing the changes to the refreshed website, especially as it pertains to the Current Students section and homepage, will be sent to students prior to the site going live. In addition, the College will be again conducting student usability testing this year to evaluate the website and continue improving its performance and how it serves students. ■



Academic Calendar

	November 2011 Term	December 2011 Term	January 2012 Term
Registration Dates	Sept. 21 - Oct. 16, 2011	Oct. 23 - Nov. 15, 2011	Nov. 21 - Dec. 16, 2011
Late Registration	Oct. 17 - Oct. 21, 2011	Nov. 16 - Nov. 20, 2011	Dec. 17 - Dec. 21, 2011
Course Transfer Period	Sept. 22 - Oct. 31, 2011	Oct. 23 - Nov. 30, 2011	Nov. 21 - Dec. 31, 2011
Term Start Date	Nov. 1, 2011	Dec. 1, 2011	Jan. 1, 2012*
Midterm Exam Week **	Dec. 12 - Dec. 17, 2011	Jan. 16. - Jan. 21, 2012	Feb. 13 - Feb. 18, 2012
Final Exam Week**	Jan. 16 - Jan. 21, 2012	Feb. 20 - Feb. 25, 2012	March 19 - March 24, 2012
Term Ends	Jan. 21, 2012	Feb. 25, 2012	March 24, 2012

* Dates apply to both Graduate and Undergraduate courses

** Select courses have midterm examinations or online proctored midterm and final examinations, please refer to your course materials for details

*** The College has extended periods for registration dates and deadlines, please see cover article for details

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