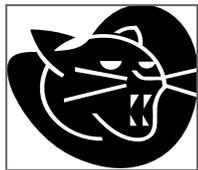


Center for Student Success

Academic Hall
A230
973-684-5524

Regular Hours:
Monday - Thursday
8:30 - 7:00
Friday
8:30 - 4:30
Saturday
8:30 - 12:30

GO PANTHERS!



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Log In to Class!

Did you know that PCCC offers on-line courses?

PCCC offers on-line courses in a wide range of subjects. More than seventy on-line course sections are offered during our fall and spring semesters, and increasing numbers of on-line courses are also offered in the summer sessions. In certain areas, students may complete entire programs of study on-line.

On-line courses have experienced growing popularity in recent years. Student enrollment in on-line courses has been growing faster than total college enrollments. The number of students taking at least one on-line course during a college semester jumped by nearly 70 % between 2002 and 2007 from 1.6 million to 3.9 million. Numbers are expected to increase as the economic recession brings people back to school for career changes.

PCCC now has students who have never set foot on the college campus. One student from South Carolina was looking to change careers and was referred to PCCC through a personal contact. The student was looking at career opportunities in the medical records field and decided to take advantage of PCCC's on-line program.

What is an on-line course?

On-line courses are given over the internet. Students participate in on-line courses through the computer from home or from other locations. Most of PCCC's on-line courses are presented through a program called WebCT and are accessed with regular web browser software such as Internet Explorer, Netscape, or Mozilla Firefox. Students interact with professors and peers through chat rooms and e-mail messages. Although assignments have deadlines, students work independently at the time of day most convenient to them. On-line courses cover the same material and earn the same number of credits as in-person course.

Are on-line courses right for me?

If your schedule and responsibilities make traveling to campus difficult, on-line courses might be ideal for you. To perform well in on-line courses, you must be motivated to succeed and able to work independently. Regular access to a computer, familiarity with its use, the use of internet browser and word processing software is a must. On-line course offerings are listed in the class schedule. For more information see the College's On-line Learning Center Website: www.pccc.edu/library/online.

New Student Orientation

Over 600 new students participated in PCCC's New Student Orientation program prior to the beginning of this semester. Along with bright red book bags and PCCC notebooks, the students acquired information that will prove valuable to them as they begin their college careers.

The program began in the Theater with some inspirational remarks from members of the college administration, including President Steve Rose, Senior Vice President of Academic & Student Affairs, Jacqueline Kineavy, and Associate Dean of Academic Affairs, Bill Morrison. The Orientation was coordinated by Adrienne Wolff, Associate Director of Career Development, with assistance from Student Activities Assistant Director, DeeAnne Hackett, her department, and the Student Government Association.

A presentation by representatives from Monster.com, the job search site, gave attendees first-hand knowledge of how important a successful college experience can be when seeking employment. Energetic speakers explained that time spent in college should be viewed as time to develop and enhance skills and experiences to reflect on your resume.

After the presentation, Counselors/ Student Development Specialists from the Center for Student Success gave group presentations on college readiness, policies & procedures. The presentations covered things students need to know to simplify the first day of school, and encouraged the students to ask any remaining questions.

The program ended with music, snacks, and a raffle, while the SGA encouraged everyone to sign up for clubs/activities, led tours, and offered their assistance to the incoming class.

**PRIORITY REGISTRATION FOR SPRING 2010 COMING SOON!
ALL PCCC STUDENTS ENROLLED IN CLASSES DURING FALL 2009 ARE ELIGIBLE
TO REGISTER DURING THIS TIME**

From the Director's Desk



Dear Student:

Greetings from the Center for Student Success (CSS)! By now you have settled into a routine attending classes and labs, studying, and submitting assignments. Hopefully, the start of your college career has been a great experience thus far.

Whether you are here to earn your first college degree, pursue a second career, upgrade your skills, or transition to a new job, you have made a smart choice. First, attending a community college is cost effective. Four-year college costs are soaring. You won't

be burdened by debt at PCCC, since the cost of a semester rarely exceeds \$1,500.

Secondly, the Lampitt Bill ensures that your transfer to a NJ four-year public college will be seamless. Graduate from PCCC, and you will transfer with junior standing. It's that simple!

Finally, at PCCC, you'll never sit in a classroom with 300 of your peers. Even as the College experiences record enrollment, most of your classes won't have more than 25 students.

Whatever the reason you chose PCCC, the CSS staff wants to ensure that you have an excellent start and that you succeed. Please drop in to see any one of our dedicated staff members.

Have a great semester!

Joann Gonzalez-Generals

Joann Gonzalez-Generals
Executive Director, CSS



THE CAREER CORNER

Sigi³ Career Guidance and Information Program

What is SIGI3?

Sigi³ stands for System of Interactive Guidance and Information, and is a special tool that can help you to explore options and plan your career. Developed by researchers/specialists at Educational Testing Service (ETS), Sigi³ offers current information on a wide variety of occupations, including appropriate majors for the occupation, salary information and required levels of education.

Sigi³ offers inventories on work-related values, interests, personality types, skills, educational programs, and more, and is available for all PCCC students. To use the Sigi³ program, you must be able to access your Portal account. From the tabs across the top of the Dashboard, select On-Line Resources. Click on Sigi³.

The first time you use the tool, you will need to create a registration file and a password.



There are computers available in the Center for Student Success for use in career exploration.

FROM THE COUNSELOR'S CORNER

Time Management

Attending classes, studying, working a part-time job, participating in extracurricular activities, and finding time for friends, family and yourself can be a hard schedule for college students to balance. The following time management tips will help you stay balanced and stress-free.

Set Goals.—Determine exactly what you want to accomplish. This may be what you want to accomplish in a day, a week, a semester or even longer. What are your academic goals? Do you have any personal goals? By setting goals, you will be more inclined to follow through with them and accomplish your tasks.

Prioritize.—Once you know what needs to be accomplished, you must prioritize your tasks. This means figuring out which tasks are most important and which ones can be put on hold. Be sure to stay focused on the most important task before you move on to the next ones. To help you prioritize your tasks, you may want to number them in order of importance.

Organize.—Being organized will help you achieve your goals in a timely manner. You need to organize your tasks so you will know what needs to be accomplished and when they need to be accomplished. Create a weekly calendar that includes your schedule for classes, study time, social events, club meetings, exercise time, and any other time necessary to achieve your goals. Also, be sure to include assignment due dates in this calendar so you don't miss a deadline. Check your calendar weekly so you will develop a regular routine while learning how to manage your time.

We all wish there were more hours in a day, but we must make the best use of the hours that we do have. By utilizing the above-mentioned steps, you will be on your way to achieving better time management skills and becoming an all-around better college student.



Desde la Oficina del Director



Querido Estudiante:

¡Un cordial saludo desde el Centro para el Éxito Estudiantil (CSS)! A este tiempo usted ya ha establecido su rutina de asistir a clases y laboratorios, estudiar y presentar sus tareas o asignaciones. Espero que el comienzo de su carrera universitaria haya sido una gran experiencia hasta el momento.

Si usted está aquí ya sea para obtener su primer título universitario, realizar una segunda carrera, mejorar sus habilidades o para cambiar a un nuevo trabajo, usted ha hecho una elección inteligente. Primero, asistir a un college de la comunidad es ventajoso. Los costos de las universidades de cuatro años son elevados. Usted no estará preocupado por una deuda en PCCC, ya que el costo de un semestre raramente excede a \$ 1,500.

Segundo, el Lampitt Bill garantiza que su

transferencia sea aceptable en un college público de cuatro años en NJ. Usted se gradúa de PCCC y se transfiere como un estudiante "junior". ¡Así de sencillo!

Finalmente, en PCCC usted nunca se sentará en un salón de clase con 300 de sus compañeros. Aún cuando el college estableció un récord en matrículas, la mayoría de sus clases no tendrán más de 25 estudiantes.

No importa la razón por la cual usted eligió PCCC, el personal del CSS quiere asegurarse de que usted tenga un excelente inicio y que usted sea exitoso. Por favor acérquese y vea a uno de nuestros dedicados miembros del centro.

¡Que tenga un excelente semestre!

Joann Gonzalez-Generals
Joann Gonzalez-Generals
Executive Director, CSS



Did you know...

All students who entered PCCC this semester are required to take Writing Intensive courses to satisfy graduation requirements. Students intending to obtain an AA Degree or an AS Degree must take two Writing Intensive courses and pass with a "C" or better prior to graduation. Students pursuing an AAS Degree are required to take one Writing Intensive class and pass with a "C" or better.

All Writing Intensive courses will be identified in the course scheduling booklet.

EL RINCON DE CARRERA

Sigi³ Programa de Dirección e Información sobre Carrera

¿Qué es SIGI³?

Sigi³ significa sistema interactivo de orientación e información. Este es un instrumento especial que le puede ayudar a examinar opciones y planear su carrera. Sigi³ ofrece información actualizada sobre una amplia variedad de trabajos incluyendo las especialidades o carreras apropiadas para un trabajo u oficio. También incluye información sobre salarios y los niveles de educación requeridos para cada carrera u ocupación.

Sigi³ ofrece un registro de información relacionando trabajos con valores de las personas, intereses, tipos de personalidad, habilidades, programas educacionales y otros más. Esta información está disponible para todos los estudiantes de PCCC. Para hacer uso del programa Sigi³ usted debe estar en capacidad de ingresar a su cuenta en PCCC.



La primera vez que usted use éste programa, necesitará crear su archivo y su password o clave. En el CSS hay computadores disponibles para investigar sobre carreras.

DESDE EL RINCON DEL CONSEJERO

Manejar su tiempo

Para un estudiante universitario puede ser difícil balancear un horario cuando tiene que asistir a clases, estudiar, trabajar, participar en actividades diferentes al estudio, encontrar tiempo para amigos, familia y aún para él mismo. Las siguientes sugerencias sobre utilización o manejo del tiempo le ayudarán a mantenerse en equilibrio y evitar el estrés.

Propóngase metas.— Decida exactamente qué desea obtener. Puede ser lo que usted espera obtener en un día, en una semana, en un semestre o aún en más largo tiempo. ¿Cuáles son sus metas académicas? ¿Tiene metas personales? Estableciendo metas, es muy probable que usted cumpla con las tareas necesarias para obtener esas metas.

Establezca Prioridades.— Cuando usted sabe que situaciones tiene por resolver, usted le dará prioridad a las actividades que debe realizar. Esto quiere decir diferenciar entre cuales asuntos o actividades son los más importantes y cuales pueden esperar. Concéntrese en las actividades más importantes antes de pasar a otras situaciones. Para que le quede más fácil establecer sus prioridades, asígnele un número a sus actividades en el orden de importancia.

Organícese.— Ser organizado le ayudará a obtener sus metas dentro del tiempo planeado. Usted necesita organizar sus actividades para saber cuáles y cuándo deben ser realizadas. Elabore un calendario semanal que incluya su horario de clases, tiempo de estudio, eventos sociales, tiempo para el gimnasio y cualquier otro tiempo necesario para conseguir sus metas. También, incluya en el calendario las fechas de vencimiento de sus obligaciones y tareas para cumplir con ellas dentro del tiempo límite. Revise su calendario semanalmente y así se convertirá en una rutina mientras aprende como manejar su tiempo.

Todos deseamos que hayan más horas en el día, pero debemos hacer el mejor uso de las horas que tenemos. Practicando los pasos ya mencionados, usted estará desarrollando habilidades en manejar su tiempo más eficientemente y por lo tanto convertirse en un mejor estudiante universitario.



WHY DO I HAVE TO TAKE...?



Students sometimes question why they have to take certain courses which appear unrelated to their chosen major. Why, for example, would an engineering major need to take history, or why would a sociology major be required to take math. Questions such as these continue from one generation of students to the next.

The answers to these questions actually lie in the way each of us relates to each other and to the world. Whenever I meet someone for the first time I engage in an extended conversation if time permits, with that person as I probe to determine what it is that makes that person different from me and similar to me. It is through this ongoing process, call it curiosity if you will, that we learn new things about others and about ourselves. Ultimately we continue to gain knowledge concerning ourselves and how we relate to the world around us as we link one idea or one impression or another.

We learn in very much the same way through formal education. The engineering student examining history through reading and discussion discovers how ancient people were able to survive and in some cases flourish under very harsh conditions because they were able to build the necessary constructions to sustain their way of life and to nurture their spirit. The modern engineer still gasps at how accurately the Greeks built their temples or how precisely the Egyptians built the pyramids, or how sturdy the Romans built their roads and their aqueducts, many of which are still in use today.

The sociology major learns through math that the systematic rules that are followed to reach a solution in a math problem are not dissimilar to rules that must be applied by a society for it to endure and thrive over a given period of time. It is incumbent upon a society to create rules by which it may avoid the ever impending shadow of chaos.

There is much that is positive in the formal study of as many disciplines as possible in the preparation of a student to encounter the numerous and unexpected challenges this person will face. Could any of us who have been on this planet for some time have predicted the twists and turns our existences have experienced? We can only hope that our broad empirical and formal exposure to knowledge will help to carry us through safely.

Jim Gallagher

Spotlight on: Liz Harrison



Student Development & Transfer Specialist

PCCC is the place to be if you plan on earning a Bachelor's degree! As Student Development and Transfer Specialist, my goal is to assist students through the transfer process to the college or university of their choice. How? By empowering students with an understanding of the transfer process and providing opportunities to interact with representatives from a variety of four-year colleges and universities. A successful transfer takes planning and preparation and I believe that it is never too early to start exploring the transfer process. While your first goal may be to complete your Associate's degree (and I certainly hope that it is!) always look ahead to where you are going next.

There are a variety of opportunities for you to learn about transferring to a four-year college or university. Transfer Advising Groups are a perfect way for you to get a basic overview of the process and ask the questions that you've been pondering. During the fall semester several institutions schedule Transfer Information Sessions where you can speak with a transfer admissions representative and learn about that university's majors and admission requirements. In the spring semester PCCC holds a Transfer College Fair which brings a variety of colleges to campus and is open to all students. If you are about to graduate this semester, and are planning to transfer for Spring 2010, you may want to participate in our Transfer Immediate Decision programs where you will apply and have your application reviewed on the spot.

I look forward to helping you achieve your higher education goals. If you are prepared to do your research, fulfill the transfer admission requirements for the college of your choice, and submit a thoughtfully prepared admission application then you're on your way to academic success!

Did you know...

All first year students are assigned a Counselor.

If you do not know who your Counselor is:
You may have recently received a yellow card in the mail with the appropriate contact name.
You can obtain the information by checking your degree audit through your portal account..

Otherwise, stop in at the Center for Student Success to obtain the information.

Feel free to contact your counselor with any academic, career or personal concerns. All services are free and confidential.