



Academic Success Center

ADDRESSING OUR STUDENTS' NEEDS BY PLANTING THE SEEDS FOR A SECURE FUTURE.

Helping you achieve
academic success

KEYS TO ACADEMIC SUCCESS

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Keys to Academic Success

Accept Responsibility

Remember that you alone are responsible for your academic achievement. Your instructor is your guide and your classmates may help you to understand your assignments; however, you are solely responsible for your own success.

Discipline Yourself

Discipline yourself to study every day at least two hours or until you understand your assignment. Study to know and to understand, not merely to get a particular grade.

Manage Your Time

Manage your time well; balance time for your personal responsibilities and studying. Remember procrastination is a subtle thief that will steal your academic success.

Stay Ahead & Focused

Stay one or more chapters ahead in class readings. Focus on your academic goals. As far as possible, eliminate negative influences and distractions that may prevent you from reaching your goal.

Let Us Help You

If you are not keeping up in class, do all that you can do to help yourself to improve your academic performance. (For example: maximize your study time by forming a study group, study with a partner, and use all support services available) If you continue to experience difficulty, make an appointment with your instructors to talk about your academic performance. Seek other support services and use them.

Be Present and Prompt

Avoid being absent or tardy. You are required to attend classes from the first day that classes begin for the semester. Good attendance will give you first-hand knowledge of your instructors' comments and responses to questions. In-class material are professors' favorite questions on exams! Also, good attendance shows commitment.

Don't Quit

Do not stop coming to class because of a personal crisis, problem, or frustration. If you stop going to class you will earn a "F," which will lower your GPA significantly. Seek help if you have a crisis, and reach out to your advisor.

Communicate with Instructors

If you cannot come to class because you are ill, notify your instructors. Try to make arrangements to make up your missed assignments. Build a rapport with your professors; they are potential future references.

Do Your Best

Only your best is good enough. Strive for "A's" and "B's," even if you have never earned "A's" and "B's."

Diligently Work Until the End

Do not slow down after mid-semester. Work harder than you did at the beginning of the semester. Build and sustain stamina until the end of the semester.

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Did You Know...



Free CPR Classes

William Paterson University Recreational Services offers FREE American Red Cross ADULT CPR/AED training. This 3-hour certification course will show you how to assist someone with a breathing or cardiac emergency. **But hurry, the class size is limited.** A new schedule is posted every semester. Please visit: <http://www.wpunj.edu/reccenter/index.dot>

Overlook Fitness Center

Is the REC Center too packed? Located between Overlook North and Overlook South, the fitness center is available to resident and commuter students. Overlook Fitness Center includes cardio equipment, categorized weight equipment, a multi-purpose room for yoga and fitness classes, and a small lounge area with flat screen televisions.

Want a Free Speech and/or Hearing Screening?

Located in the lower level of Hunziker Wing, the William Paterson University department of Communication Disorder and Sciences offers free Speech and Hearing Screenings conducted by Communication Disorders students. For more information or to make an appointment please contact the Speech and Hearing Clinic at 973-720-2207.

Tired of Wayne Hall and The Food Court?

Check out the University Café located at 1600 Valley Road. There is also a new Market Place located in University Commons Mainstreet, attached to the bookstore.

The Office of Sophomore and Junior Experience:

Are you a Sophomore or Junior and still need some help getting used to the campus? The Office of Sophomore and Junior Experience is designed to support students transitioning into and completing the middle years of college. Students need to develop a sense of purpose and achieve maximum value of the educational experience. By incorporating a mixture of academic support and enrichment programs/activities, students learn to focus on priorities and goals, while they undergo personal development during this time of transition. These programs are designed to highlight existing services and tools available at WPU, and allow students to forge meaningful relationships with faculty, administrators, and peers.

The Office of Transfer Student Experience:

Transfer Student Experience offers guidance, support and advocacy to new and currently enrolled transfer students, as well as readmitted students at William Paterson University. They recognize that transfers and readmits have different needs than first-year students, and they here to help you acclimate, reacclimate and seamlessly transition to our WPU community. The office is committed to providing comprehensive resources, success tips, and information to transfer and readmitted students. The office staff works collaboratively with various University departments in the students' transitional process. We are located in Raubinger Hall Room 207A— pay them a visit!

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What Are Employers Looking For?



Modest Social Media Accounts

- According to a 2012 article published in *U.S. News & World Report*, 1 in 3 employers “use social networks to conduct background checks on job candidates, and 40% of those...specifically check Facebook.”
- The ability to work well in teams—especially with people from different cultural backgrounds.
- “There is broad agreement among employers that all students, regardless of their chosen field of study, should have educational experiences that teach them about building civic capacity...and cultures outside the United States” (Hart Research Associates, 2013)

Leadership Experience

- According to *U.S. News & World Report*, employers “look to hire people who have held leadership positions in on-campus organizations, which could mean anything from heading up a three-person chess club to being president of the student government.” (Palmer, 2012)

Internship Experience

- “9 out of 10 employers say they look for students to have one or two internships before graduating, and that those internships should be at least three months each to provide enough experience.” (Palmer, 2012).
- “In industries across the board, employers viewed an internship as the single most important credential for recent grads – more than where you went to school or what you majored in. Even your grades.” (Scott, 2013).
- Communication skills (e.g., ability to write, compose emails, give presentations in front of others, and being able to have conversations with those across generations.)
- “Recent grads too often don’t know how to communicate effectively. How you put an idea forward, and how do you support it, how do you build it, how do you put the facts behind it? All of those things are really critical.” (Scott, 2013).

The Ability to Apply Knowledge and Skills in New Settings:

- “They [college graduates] have trouble adapting, problem solving and making decisions – things employers say they should have learned in college” (Scott, 2013).



What Are Employers Looking For?

Basic Knowledge of the Position and Good Interviewing Skills:

- “Anyone walking into a job interview should probably have a basic grasp of what the job entails, how the company works, and what it might be like to work there.” (Palmer, 2012)
- Employers are turned off by graduates who arrive unprepared for the interview, and agree that graduates need to work at interviewing better. (Palmer, 2012; Scott, 2013)
- The ability to analyze a problem, and develop practical solutions using creativity and innovation.
- In an online survey assessing employers’ opinions of how college students can succeed in today’s economy, 95% of employer participants reported giving “hiring preference to college graduates with skills that will enable them to contribute to innovation in the workplace.” (Hart Research Associates, 2013)

A Strong Sense of Ethics and Integrity:

- “Employers point to a variety of types of knowledge and skills as important considerations when hiring, placing the greatest priority on ethics, intercultural skills, and capacity for professional development.” (Hart Research Associates, 2013)

Well-rounded Background:

- “We don’t need mono-focused people. We need well-rounded people.” (Scott, 2013)
- Liberal arts and career development are “intrinsically linked.” (Scott, 2013)
- “Employers recognize the importance of today’s colleges and universities providing a liberal education—one that focuses on both broad knowledge in a variety of areas and knowledge in a specific field of interest, as well as intellectual and practical skills that span all areas of study and a sense of social responsibility.” (Hart Research Associates, 2013)

References:

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Palmer, K. (2012, May 15). 7 things employers want from new grads. *U.S. News & World Report*. Retrieved from: <http://money.usnews.com/money/blogs/alpha-consumer/2012/05/15/7-things-employers-want-from-new-grads>

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Academic Success Center

We Want You...We are hiring for the Fall!



**Peer Tutor & Supplemental Instruction positions
are available for next semester!**

Peer Tutor Position:

Primary Activities

Effectively conduct one-to-one tutoring sessions, maintain a consistent schedule
(maximum of 12 hours weekly)
Reports to the Learning Services Coordinator

Requirements

Students must be matriculated at William Paterson University during employment
Maintain a 3.0 Cumulative GPA during employment
Have at least an B+ in the course interested in tutoring. Transcripts from other institutions are required.
Obtain two letters for recommendation from faculty
Good interpersonal and communication skills (to be determined by the Learning Services Coordinator)
Attend a mandatory training prior to start of employment
Submit a complete application, available by email upon request at: **delarosay1@wpunj.edu**
(Please note priority will be given to high-need areas.)

Supplemental Instruction (SI) Leader Position:

Primary Activities

Attend all class meetings of the selected course, take notes, do homework and read all assigned materials including text(s) and supplemental readings.
Conduct at least three 50-minute study sessions per week throughout the term using strategies learned through the SI leader training workshop.
Regularly meet with the SI supervisor for debrief sessions.
Collect data and complete all necessary paperwork.

Requirements

Junior or Senior standing is preferred; second-term sophomore is the usual minimum.
An overall GPA of 3.0 or above (on a 4.0 scale) is required.
A grade of 3.0 or above (on a 4.0 scale) in the selected course is preferred; prior enrollment with the professor who is to teach the selected course is preferred.
Content-competency (to be determined by the selected course professor) is required.
Good interpersonal and communication skills (to be determined by the SI supervisor) are required.
Submit a complete application, available by email upon request at: **stanfieldt@wpunj.edu**