DEGREEWORKS

Update: Advisors can now use the “Degree Evaluation” link on their Advisee Listing in UCanWeb to go directly to that student’s degree audit without having to manually enter the Student ID number. This will allow you to quickly find your advisees in DegreeWorks. The Graphic and Multimedia Design department has been helping us create some videos to be used as student tutorials of DegreeWorks. These will be released soon.

Keep in mind that your feedback is critical to a system that is accurate and up-to-date. If you find a discrepancy in DegreeWorks, talk to your dean’s office or contact Memorie or Sharon.

SMART STEPS WORKSHOP SERIES

Smart Steps is open to any interested students. They are welcome to come to just one workshop or to one session for every step. Held in Payson 218.

**Step 1: Winning the College Game**
- Monday, February 2 at 5:00 PM OR Tuesday, February 3 at 3:00 PM OR Friday, February 6 at 10:00 AM (attend only one)

**Step 2: Goal Setting for Success!**
- Monday, February 9 at 5:00 PM OR Tuesday, February 10 at 3:00 PM

**Step 3: So Noted: Writing to LEARN**
- Monday, February 16 at 5:00 PM OR Tuesday, February 17 at 3:00 PM

**Step 4: Time is Ticking!**
- Monday, February 23 at 5:00 PM OR Tuesday, February 24 at 3:00 PM OR Friday, February 27 at 10:00 AM

**Step 5: Test Taking Strategy 101**
- Monday, March 2 at 5:00 PM OR Tuesday, March 3 at 3:00 PM

STUDY SKILLS TUNE-UP

Have you noticed a student in one of your classes who just isn’t thriving? Perhaps they are lacking a plan to manage their time, or don’t seem to be taking notes, or maybe they don’t do well on the test even though they seem to be doing everything else right. In addition to the Smart Steps Study Skills Workshop series which is open to all students, Advising and First Year Programs offers individual STUDY SKILL TUNE-UPS. Please call us for more details about individualized sessions for your students.

ADVISOR INFORMATION PANEL

Mark your calendars now!

Advisor Information Workshop featuring a panel from Career Services, Financial Aid and International Programs. Each presenter will provide a few tips on items they would like advisors to be more aware of, then we will have time for Q & A.

We will also be awarding the student-nominated STELLAR advisor awards!

**Tuesday, March 24th**
- 12:00 – 12:50
- MCC 212-214

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**Tuesday, March 24th**
- 12:00 – 12:50
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FIRST YEAR EXPERIENCE

We did some research into the pass rates for FYEP 101. We found that about 60% of the students who take the course get A’s and B’s, and 10-15% fail the course. This is the distribution over five years:

Got an idea for FYEP?

In Fall 2014, we offered a number of sections of FYEP that were geared toward students in specific majors or with similar needs. If you are interested in proposing a special section of FYEP, please contact Sharon for an appointment to discuss. Some examples from last fall include a section for business majors, one for engineering majors, one for students interested in health fields, and one for non-traditional students. FYEP 101 is an approved course with a syllabus and SLO’s, but as with any course, there is room for the instructor to put their own personal stamp on it.

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Did you know? You and your students can look up how courses transfer between SUNY Campuses at the SUNY Transfer site

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SPOTLIGHT ON AN FYEP INSTRUCTOR

This month, I visited with Rajiv Narula. Rajiv has taught FYEP 101 since Fall 2013.

**ST: Why do you teach FYEP?**

I do it because I remember what is was like to be a new student at Clarkson. I was a PhD student there, but new to the U.S at that time. It felt like there were so many things that I had to figure out on my own, and it was hard to find people to guide me. I want new SUNY Canton students to look to me as a resource, but I also want them to feel comfortable and able to focus on the real reason they are here.

**ST: How do you accomplish that?**

I make a special effort to really listen and take note of their interests and experiences. For example, when we talk about diversity, I start by talking about candy. Everyone likes candy, but not everyone likes the same kind of candy. No one discriminates against you because of the kind of candy you like, but that is a great way to get us started on the larger discussion. What they don’t know is that I make a note of their favorite candy and then I have it for them when we get to mid-terms or during their presentations. They are always so surprised that I remembered and it cuts their stress.

**ST: Do you find some topics resonate more than others with your students?**

I love that in FYEP we have a chance to focus on the things that the students are concerned about and I don’t have to worry so much about covering the content in time for the next test. Of course the common issues are a hit, like time management and effective use of the library resources, but I also ask them what they want to know more about. This fall, when I had a couple of students ask about safety and Title IX, I invited Deputy Chief Al Mulkin to come in and talk to the class. Having him come to a classroom setting was incredibly valuable because the students felt comfortable enough to ask questions, but then they also knew they could approach him with an issue later if needed.

Thanks Rajiv! Our students are lucky to have you in their corner!