

September/October 2015

Volume 4, Issue 2

COMMUTER COURIER

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Special points of interest:

- Homecoming Weekend is October 3 and 4
- Family & Friends Weekend is October 30 and 31
- Registration for *Emerging Leader* program for First Year students or the *Art of Leadership* series for Sophomores end on October 9. Please stop by the Office of Student Activities & Leadership Development to register.
- Fall Recess is October 12 and 13.

D'Amour Library Hours & Weekend Access

Just a reminder that the D'Amour Library hours are:

Monday - Thursday

7:45 am - 12:00 am

Friday

7:45 am - 8:00 pm

Saturday

9:00 am - 8:00 pm

Sunday

12:00 pm - 12:00 am

After 6:00 p.m. during the week and on week-ends, a current Western New England University ID or



Library Access card is required to gain access to D'Amour Library.

WNE students may access the basement

level at any time using the parking lot entrance. A current WNE ID is required.

Commuter Connections Luncheons

Join the Office of Student Activities & Leadership Development and the Academic Success Center each month for lunch on us. Take this opportunity to connect with your fellow commuting students while have lunch.

October 22

November 19

12:30pm in Senate Chambers

Tips for Meeting with your Advisor

It's hard to think about planning for spring semester classes when midterms haven't even hit THIS semester. However, the need to see your advisor is quickly approaching. Here are a few things to keep in mind when it comes time to meet with your advisor:

- **Take the initiative.** Schedule the time to meet with him/her early and keep the appointment. Avoid rescheduling or counting on just "dropping in," as this may impact your chances of getting into the classes you need!
- **Make a list of questions.** Go the appointment prepared by already reviewing course requirements, prerequisites, etc. This way you maximize the time you have with your advisor.
- **Communicate clearly.** Be concise. If you don't understand something, ask! Policies and procedures can be confusing and could have grave consequences should you make a mistake. If for some reason you are struggling to make a meaningful connection with your advisor, ask to see if there is another advisor available. It doesn't hurt to ask!
- **Explore your options.** Your advisor is there to guide you towards your interests and goals. Take advantage of his/her wisdom and experience. Stay open to your advisor's viewpoint.
- **Be realistic.** Loading your schedule up with too many difficult courses in one semester could be disastrous and result in a graduation delay. Know your academic limits and share them with your advisor so that he/she can give you the best advice!
- **Keep records!** Create a file to hold important documents; save emails or letters from your department. Having everything in one place makes it easy each semester when the time comes again to meet with your advisor.

Adapted from University of West Virginia Commuter Connections Newsletter (October 2014, Volume 11, Issue 2)

Study Tips as Midterms Are Approaching

With midterm exams on your radar, it's important to study effectively. Here are the top study tips:

1. Attend class regularly. When you miss lecture, you will miss the important connections professors make with the material.
2. Organize your notes in one location. Try and take comprehensive notes rather than copying your professors notes word-for-word.
3. When you sit down to study, don't study for more than 90 minutes. Breaks are needed to refocus.
4. With that in mind, it takes 5 minutes to refocus. Find a place free from distractions.
5. Start now on long-term projects in order to manage your time wisely.
6. Create portable tasks such as study aids, note cards, etc.

Adapted from University of West Virginia Commuter Connections Newsletter (October 2012, Volume 9, Issue 2)



Center for Civic Engagement Upcoming Events

Alternative Fall Break (AFB)

October 10-13, 2015

AFB is an opportunity for students to learn more about the Springfield community while doing service. This year there will be 3 different experiences: Habitat for Humanity, The Children's Study Home, and Providence Ministries Service Network.

Applications are available in the Center for Civic Engagement and are due Friday, September 25, 2015

Contact Emma Seils (emma.seils@wne.edu) for more information!

Community Action Rewards Everyone (C.A.R.E.)

CARE is our community service based organization here on campus! This is a great opportunity to meet fellow classmates and to participate in service projects on and off campus. Interested in joining? Come to our next General Meeting on Monday, September 28, 2015 at 5:00 pm in Senate Chambers.

Contact Emily Fliss (emily.fliss@wne.edu) for more information!

Alternative Spring Break Information Sessions

Are you interested in learning more about this year's Alternative Spring Break trips? Attend one of our Information Sessions to learn more!

Tuesday, September 29, 2015 at 12:30 pm in CC7

Tuesday, October 6, 2015 at 7:00 pm in the Freedman Room

Contact Emma Seils (emma.seils@wne.edu) for more information!



**Homecoming
Weekend
October 2-3**

Current Learning Beyond the Classroom (LBC) Opportunities

3DS Program- 3 Day Startup Program; (think “Shark Tank” for college students); Contact: Professor Rob Gettens at robert.gettens@wne.edu or 413.796.2299 or Sleith 213E

30/30 Creative Thinking Challenge; Special Orientation Session on Friday, October 1; Contact: Professor Harlan Spotts at hspotts@wne.edu or 413.782.1280 or Churchill 222

Alternative Fall Break; Oct 10-13, Applications Due Fri 9/25; Contact: Emma Seils in the Center for Civic Engagement at emma.seils@wne.edu or 413.782.1638 or Campus Center 233

Polling Institute; Training Begins Sept 25; Contact: Professor Tim Vercellotti at polling@wne.edu or 413.782.1724 or Churchill 303/ Valley Road 52

Other experiences you may be doing (On or Off Campus employment, Tutoring, Athletics, Co-curricular Activities, Conferences, etc.) may count for an LBC; Contact Tina Flanagan in the LBC Office for more details at lbcoffice@wne.edu or 413.782.1687 or 2nd Floor Campus Center, next to the Career Development Center.

Don't put it off! Submit your LBC application now! Come see us at the LBC Office. We're here to help you with your LBC requirement.

**Invite your family to see where
you are spending time!**



**MAP OUT YOUR NEXT
FAMILY ROAD TRIP
TO FAMILY AND FRIENDS WEEKEND
October 30-November 1**

Mark your calendar for a weekend
of fun-filled fall activities.

Sponsored by the Campus Activities Board (CAB)

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