

Advising Services

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Advisor Profile

Kristi Conrad, Advisor for Switch to Semesters Career and Technical Programs: Hospitality, Massage, Sport & Exercise Studies, Justice & Safety Programs, Construction Sciences & Engineering Technologies.

What do you wish more students knew about your role? I am here and eager to help both the students and other advisors. The Switch to Semesters will bring about some concerns for students, and may increase the time they need in advising sessions. I can assist with choosing courses and creating schedules, as well as mapping out a plan for future classes. I will do my best to address any concerns a student may have regarding their educational career here at Columbus State Community College. And if I don't have the answer, I'll do my best to find it.

What is some of the best advice you have given to students? College does not have to be a sprint. Occasionally challenges occur in life that can knock plans off of the anticipated track. It is important for the student to choose the pace that works best for their circumstances and not to get discouraged when these challenges occur. Sometimes it just takes a little longer to get to the end of the race. The important part is to make it to the finish line. Desire, persistence, and a good plan of action can help the student get there. Utilizing a time management calendar can really help in the planning process. Having the calendar with class times marked gives the student a visual of their available time for class, studying, work, and responsibilities at home. It is a great plan for the student to use on their journey to the finish line. It is just that though, a plan. It is up to the student to put it into practice in order to achieve his or her goals.

What is your educational background? Bachelor of Science, Interpersonal Communication in Health and Human Services, Ohio University. Master of Science, Criminal Justice, University of Cincinnati.

IMPORTANT DATES

Sept 30	Petition to Graduate Autumn 2011 due 4:30PM
Oct 31	Readmission Deadline for Academic Dismissal/ Academic Review Winter 2011
TBA	BLUEPrint: Student Success Workshops

A Good Start to a New Quarter

By Shelley Casbarro, Academic Advisor

On September 21st Autumn quarter classes will begin. Preparation for Autumn quarter classes begins long before September 21st. Here are a few tips for getting the new quarter off to a good start:

Schedule: Plan your weekly student schedule. Write out your class schedule AND study schedule. Much of your college education happens on your time. How you manage your own study time will impact your college success. As a general rule, for every hour you are in class, you should study 2-3 hours on your own time.

Dry Run: Do a run through of your first day of class. Drive to campus, locate parking options (keeping in mind the first week of class will require plenty of extra time to find an open stop and get to class on time), walk to your classrooms, locate key areas such as computer labs, the library, tutoring labs, and a spot to grab lunch. This step will save time and stress as you approach the real first day of class.

Back-Up Plans: Before the quarter begins, sit down and think of some of the potential crises that could threaten your college success: changing work schedule that conflicts with your class schedule, broken down car, sick children who can't go to school/daycare, or even a planned major life change, e.g. moving, birth of a child, military deployment. Create backup plans ahead of time to avoid major disturbances in your education: meet with your employer before classes begin to discuss scheduling issues, know of carpool options or your local bus route, have an alternative childcare provider on-call, pre-plan for your major life change and decide if a part-time school schedule might be a better option.

Week 1: The best way to beat procrastination is to never let it start. Focus on your first week of classes as if it is the most important week of the quarter. Complete every assignment and work ahead on upcoming assignments. Then when week two rolls around- you are prepared and getting into effective study habits.

Best wishes on a successful Autumn quarter!!

Cougar Edge = College Success: A New Developmental Education Option

Students with COMPASS placement scores indicating the need for developmental coursework (e.g., DEV 040, DEV 041, DEV 030) before college-level courses, have two options: take the courses in the Developmental Education Department or join Columbus State's new Cougar Edge program. The Cougar Edge program has many exciting advantages.

- **Individualized Pace:** Cougar Edge courses are paced for successful completion. Take the time you need to improve your skills.
- **No Cost:** Cougar Edge program is free for students. The approximate cost of 12 credit hours of developmental coursework (tuition, fees, books, and supplies) is \$1,347. The cost of Cougar Edge is \$0.
- **Convenient Locations:** Cougar Edge courses are conveniently located at Columbus State's Columbus and Delaware campuses and other off-campus centers.
- **No Grades:** Cougar Edge coursework is not recorded on your student transcript. You can concentrate on learning the material without the added stress of grades.
- **No Financial Aid Penalty:** Cougar Edge does not use federal financial aid. This program is not available to students who have already received financial aid payments for the current quarter.
- **No Wait:** Cougar Edge classes are offered at a variety of times and locations, and you can still join up to a week after traditional courses have started.

To register call 287-5858 or visit the Non-Credit Registration Office in the Center for Workforce Development, Room 1090.

Tools & Resources: CSCC Bookstore

Have your books ready for the first day of class. The Bookstore is your campus source and one-stop shop for everything you need to succeed at Columbus State: new and used textbooks, supplies, software, electronics, computer products, imprinted Columbus State apparel, gifts, backpacks and totes, and a variety of reference material and general books.

- **Cougar Rewards:** Sign up for the CS Bookstore's "frequent buyer" program, Cougar Rewards, and receive a \$5 gift certificate for every \$50 you spend in the Bookstore. The Cougar Rewards certificate may be redeemed for any item in the store. Ask for a registration form at the cash register. Program excludes: textbooks, calculators, software, stamps, and money orders.
- **Discounted Software:** The CS Bookstore offers academic versions of popular software titles, which saves students money. For example: Microsoft Office Professional 2010 Academic Version for \$99.99 (up to 3 installations for 1 end user, price applies to any student enrolled at a college or university with a current school ID, in-store purchase or [online](#). Check out our extended in-store product line.
- **Textbook Buyback:** The CS Bookstore offers a daily textbook buyback program, and the main buyback during finals week each term. See store for details.
- **Textbook Rentals:** The CS Bookstore offers an on-line textbook rental program. Rent and save on textbooks [online](#).

The store is located on the Columbus Campus in the Discovery Exchange (DX) building at the corner of Cleveland Ave. & Mt. Vernon Avenue.

Advising Contacts

For quick questions or to point you in the right direction, please feel free to contact us:

By Phone: (614) 287-2668
Mon.-Thurs. 10am to 6pm,
Fri. 10am to 3pm

By E-Mail: transfer@csc.edu if you are an Associate of Arts/
Associate of Science transfer, transient or undecided student

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