



Student Support Services



Fall 2013 Newsletter

Letter from the Director

At the beginning of the semester I presented a workshop, 'Keys to College Success.' The goal for the session was to give students some tools to help them have a successful semester. Now that it is midterm, it's an ideal time to check-in to see if you are on track to meet your academic goals for the semester.

After fall break you should take some time to assess your progress and your likelihood of success in each of your classes. Hopefully, there is still plenty of time to turn things around if you are not where you would like to be. SSS has conducted midterm grade checks for some students, but it is every student's responsibility to evaluate his or her own progress. Take the initiative and seek the help you need to be successful.

Keys to College Success

Take Control-you are responsible for your success

Go to class-class attendance must be a priority throughout the semester

Put in the Work-study more than you think you need to be successful

Connect With Others

Instructors

Campus Resources such as Tutoring & SSS

Other Students

The last and perhaps most important key to success is **resilience**-the ability to handle adverse situations with persistence and to recover quickly. Everyone will encounter setbacks and challenges at one time or another, but what matters is how you handle the adversity. During your collegiate career you should expect some stumbling blocks and failures, but you cannot allow these obstacles to be the end of your academic journey. College is hard work and completing college is even more challenging but it can be done!

"A setback is a setup for a comeback."—T.D. Jakes



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15 Things Every College Student Should Know

1. College is a job.
2. You need to know that a syllabus isn't a list of suggestions.
3. Do not make the mistake of thinking that since you've gone to class you're done for the day.
4. A student gets ahead on the weekends.
5. You need to know that the dates assigned for exams and papers are what you now plan your life around.
6. A prayer can't overcome the consequences of not studying.
7. You need to know you can't turn in work that was due four weeks ago. Your mother calling the professor won't help.
8. Read the chapter the professor is going to talk about before class.
9. Second semester classes build on the first semester, pay attention now before it is too late.
10. Professors will not praise you for a job well done, they will expect you to perform well.
11. You need to know it is important to develop a relationship with your professor now, not a week before the final exam.
12. You need to know you will see questions on tests not covered in class. Professors love to see if you have been reading.
13. Stay mentally and emotionally healthy.
14. Set deadlines today to avoid last minute meltdowns tomorrow.
15. You need to know how to take personal responsibility. Success or failure is now based on your decisions and your effort.

Excerpts taken from *"1001 Things Every College Student Needs To Know"*, written by Harry Harrison.

Check out this book and many others in the Student Support Services Resource Library!

The following Student Support Services participants will be graduating in December:

Britney Dargavell will be graduating with her AA and transferring to Morehead.

J.D. Wilson will be graduating with his AS and Computer Science degrees and transferring to UK.

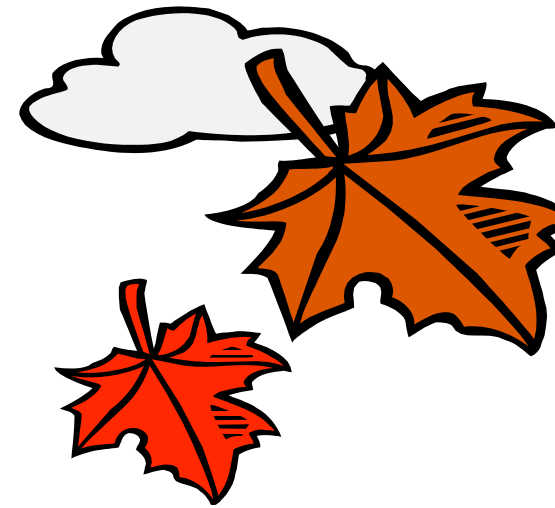
Tasha Perkins will be graduating with her AA and transferring to UK.

Amanda Spritz will be graduating with her AS and transferring to UK.

Christina Ward will be graduating with her AA and transferring to ECU.

Yovanna Jones will be graduating with her AA.

Congratulations!!!



Finishing Up 2013

Pumpkins are out, Christmas music will soon be on the radio (it's already on my iPod!) and turkeys are in a near panic – which must mean we're nearing the end of the year! As 2013 begins to wind down there are a few things you want to keep in mind to finish up this year and start the next one off right!

1. Midterms are over! Talk with your professors to find out how you're doing. If you're failing or not doing well in a class, it may not be too late to turn it around!
2. Thanksgiving Break is only a month away – November 27 through December 1.
3. If you'll be graduating in Spring 2014, and several of you are, drop by and visit your SSS advisor in early December so we can go ahead and get your graduation application submitted.
4. If you absolutely have to drop a class then December 6th is the last day – however you will have to get your instructor's permission to do so.
5. Final Exams will take place on December 8 – 14. Start preparing now! Check out the "Surviving Final Exams" workshop on the SSS Blackboard page for some tips.
6. Don't forget to visit your SSS advisor in November or December to make sure you have everything in order for Spring.
7. Christmas Vacation runs from December 15 – January 11. BCTC campuses will be completely closed down from December 21 – January 5, so if you have any business to take care of, you'll want to do it before the 21st.
8. Complete your 2014-15 FAFSA in January! Your SSS advisor will be more than happy to help.
9. If you have any problems, don't hesitate to let us know.

SSS Grant Aid Award

We are currently accepting applications for the SSS Grant Aid Award for the spring semester. Grant aid awards are intended to reduce dependence on loans and provide an added incentive to participate fully in the SSS program. The grant awards for 2013-2014 will be approximately \$600.

Eligibility Criteria

Enrolled part-time or full-time for the spring semester

Receiving a Pell grant for the current semester

Have unmet financial need as defined by the Financial Aid office

Have a cumulative GPA of 2.5 or higher

Must be active in the SSS program as evidenced by:

-At least 3 documented program contacts per semester with the SSS staff

-Attendance at 2 or more SSS workshops

-Making progress in the area of Financial Literacy education by either attending workshops or enrollment in Financial Literacy Course.



The application deadline is **December 16, 2013**. Applications are available in the SSS office or from your Educational Advisor. Questions, contact Tania Crawford Gross at 859 246-6580 or Tania.Crawford@kctcs.edu.

Upcoming SSS Events

Internships & You Workshop, Thursday, Nov. 7 @ 2:00 **Cooper** campus Oswald 246

Time Management Workshop, Tuesday, Nov. 12 @ 12:30 **Leestown** campus M Bldg. 128

Finishing the Semester on a Positive Note Workshop, Tuesday, Nov. 19 @ 11 a.m. **Cooper** campus Oswald 246

Preparing for Finals Workshop, Thursday, November 21 @ 2:00 **Leestown** campus M Bldg. 128

December 6th is the last day for a student, with instructor's permission, to officially withdraw from a class and receive a grade of W