



Important Dates for Winter Quarter 2012

- **January 3:** Winter Classes begin
- **January 9:** Last day to add classes to winter quarter
- **January 16:** last day to drop classes with no penalty
- **January 17:** Grades of "W" assigned for classes dropped on or after this day.
- **February 20:** Last day to withdraw from winter quarter classes
- **March 19:** Winter Quarter ends

Writing Groups Events

Suburban Campus Writing Groups are convenient tutoring options for online students residing in the Chicago area, commuters, SNL and suburban campus students, meeting at the Naperville, Oak Forest and O'Hare campuses on Saturdays from 10am-11:30am during each academic term. They are a drop-in tutoring service where students work with Group Leaders and fellow writers in a collaborative setting in which they both receive and provide feedback on written work. Contributing writers will find that all meetings allow them to constructively share their pieces in contexts like one-on-one peer feedback and group workshops, allowing exposure to different audiences and forms of collaboration and group discussion. If you would like more information, check the University Center for Writing-based Learning website at <http://condor.depaul.edu/writing/>

DePaul Discounts App

Vidappe is a free app for your smart phone that lets you receive notifications of DePaul discounts at area shops and restaurants.

For more information, please visit: <https://vidappe.com/>



Looking Ahead as SNL turns 40

After many months of work and effort on the part of faculty, staff and students, SNL has completed crafting its five-year strategic plan and looks to its 40th anniversary celebration for 2012.

SNL's vision statement reads: Employers and the public will perceive School for New Learning graduates to be lifelong learners of the highest quality, disciplined thinkers and critically engaged citizens, competent and versatile in their ability to synthesize ideas for applied use as they address the challenges and engage the opportunities of contemporary adult life.

SNL's renewed core purpose is to nurture curiosity, reflective judgment and a lifelong passion for learning— equipping global citizens to address the challenges and engage the opportunities of contemporary work, community and personal adult life.

Our four strategic goals are:

- To achieve strategic growth in the Midwest while maintaining our national reputation as a quality provider of undergraduate and graduate degree programs for adults.

- To provide the highest-quality educational experience for adult learners.
- To expand and efficiently use financial resources dedicated to SNL's strategic growth and development.
- To restructure and simplify SNL's governance, management and administrative systems to best achieve growth and quality.

We will be working hard in the coming years to achieve these goals. Additionally, throughout the next year, SNL representatives will visit adult programs in other colleges and universities across the country to gather ideas and best practices that will inform our curricular and new program development and help us improve current programs.

Stay tuned for information about our 40th anniversary activities and celebrations.

Meet SNL Online Alum Kristi Laakkonen

Kristi is a Summer 2011 SNL graduate from the Chicago area with a focus area in leadership and management.

What field do you currently work in?

I currently work as an Account Manager in the Payroll/HRIS industry

How did your education at SNL impact your current job?

The way I view my position, my company and my clients is different. The knowledge and skills I gained—specifically through courses that focused on critical thinking, conflict resolution and leadership—have impacted how I handle and prioritize issues, how I interact with my team and internal departments, and how I analyze my clients' needs. I know that my communication skills have been strengthened and my experience at SNL has helped me to be more strategic in my vision and decision making—personally and professionally.

What do you love about your job?

In my current position, I assist my clients with their payroll and HR questions, programs and initiatives. I really enjoy analyzing their needs, issues or concerns and providing solutions. Most of all, I love the relationships that I am able to form with my clients and the internal associates I interact with

What advice do you have for current students taking online classes?

Don't be frightened of online classes. Yes, you will need to be disciplined—but isn't that true for most things in life? They offer wonderful flexibility and the experience can be as good if not better than a classroom setting. Since I was able to work according to my work/family schedule (sometime even starting at 10pm and working to midnight or waking up early to log in at 5am), online classes made it possible for me to complete my degree. I have been very happy with the interaction with my professors and also formed many wonderful long-term relationships with classmates.



Looking back as a student, is there anything you would have done differently?

I would have started at SNL much, much sooner and I would have found a professional advisor when I started the program or shortly after since they are an integral part of the experience. Otherwise, the entire journey was very rewarding and the professors and advisors have been wonderful to work with.

Your School for New Learning experience helped you by:

- Developing confidence in myself that I can accomplish by goals and belief that I can do anything I set my mind to.

- Making Academic Advisors available that truly care and are so passionate about the student's success.
- Providing comprehensive courses that would provide an excellent education in a flexible format that made it possible for me to attend classes and earn my degree from a respected university. As a result, I can advance my career.
- Giving me the opportunity to be an example for my high school age son—showing him that education is essential and possible no matter your age or circumstance.



New SNL Online Faculty Teaching in Winter 2012

Dr. Gregory Caicco is a former Jesuit who worked on the South Side of Chicago and with refugees in Guatemala. Before, he practiced as a professional architect in Toronto after earning a professional B.Arch. in Ottawa. Afterwards he did his graduate work in philosophy as well as the history, theory and philosophy of architecture/art earning an M.Phil. at Cambridge University in England, and M.A. in philosophy at Loyola University Chicago, and a Ph.D. at McGill University. Dr. Caicco taught history, theory and ethics of architecture at McGill and at Arizona State University where he held the Lincoln Chair of Ethics in Architecture and Environmental Design from 2000-04. He has published widely, including the 2008 book *Architecture, Ethics and the Personhood of Place* (see <http://www.dartmouth.edu/~upne/1-58465-653-0.html>). He is currently working on a monograph concerning the architectural ethics of Saint Francis of Assisi in the Italian 13th c. Gregory will be teaching *IN 307 Advanced Elective Seminar – Italian Renaissance*.

Mark Enenbach has been a member of the SNL Part Time faculty since 1988. He is Vice President and Chief Operating Officer for The Community Economic Development Association. He received his M.A. in Urban Planning from Loyola University. Mark will be teaching *China Money, Power, and the 21st Century*.

James Kimsey earned his M.S. in Music Technology from Indiana University-Purdue School of Engineering Technology (IUPUI), and his B.A. in Telecommunications from Indiana University, where he also studied Audio Engineering and Jazz Improvisation. Jim has worked extensively as a professional musician and has instructed in guitar and piano since 1981. He has also been a video/audio producer for over 25 years.

Nancy Morgan has an MA in Teaching English as a Second Language from Teachers College, Columbia University, NY, and an MA in International Relations from the University of Chicago. She has written and produced educational video programming for students and instructors, K-12 and Higher Education, on a range of topics. She has been an online instructional designer for the past 5 years and has also taught online courses. Nancy will be teaching *HC 239 Globalization: Winners, Losers, and Social Justice*.

Scott Murdoch has been teaching Biology since 1997. He holds a Masters Degree in Environmental Biology and is currently an Associate Professor and Department Chair of Biological Sciences at Moraine Valley Community College. His interests lie in many areas of Biology including Botany, Zoology, Ecology, and Human Anatomy and Physiology. He is also the co-director of MVCC's Nature Study

Area, a 40 acre prairie restoration site on campus. In his spare time Scott likes to hike, run, camp, garden, laugh, and watch children play. Scott will be teaching *SW 341 Ecology of Personal Life*.

Regina Spellers Sims holds a Ph.D. in Intercultural and Organizational Communication from Arizona State University. She also has an MBA from University of Bridgeport. She is president/CEO of Eagles Soar Consulting, LLC which provides training, writing, curriculum development, and research services. Her teaching and research focuses on gender/girlhood studies, multicultural intergroup relations, business, and hair/body politics. Her award winning publications include a co-edited volume, book chapters, journal and magazine articles, and web based study guides.

Derise Tolliver Atta is a licensed psychologist, is a member of the SNL Resident Faculty and Director, SNL Tangaza Project. She earned her doctorate from Duke University. Her professional and research interests include African-centered psychology, spirituality, cultural issues in psychology and education, and HIV/AIDS. Derise will be teaching *LL 205 Foundations of Adult Learning*.

Faculty Accomplishments

Michelle Navarre Cleary has an article coming out about SNL's Writing Workshop class; "How Antonio Graduated on Out of Here – Improving the Success of Adult Students with an Individualized Writing Course." *Journal of Basic Writing*. 30.1 (Spring 2011): 101-130.

Dr. Regina Spellers Sims co-edited *Blackberries and Redbones: Critical Articulations of Black Hair/Body Politics in Africana Communities* (Hampton Press, 2010) selected for the 2011 National Communication Association's (NCA), African American Communication and Culture Division (AACCCD) and Black Caucus (BC) "Outstanding Book of the Year Award." The decision was made by peer review. The awards committee felt that their work represented a superior level of scholarship and promises to make a significant

contribution to Africana communication scholarship.

Tom Tresser wrote an article for OnTheCommons.org on the looming privatization push in Illinois - which is informing his current civic work - <http://onthecommons.org/none-dare-call-it-privatization>

Patricia Monaghan A revised and expanded edition of "Meditation: The Complete Guide" will be published by New World Library in November. The book, co-written with biochemist and yoga teacher Eleanor Viereck, describes almost 50 kinds of meditative traditions, some deriving from major religions such as Buddhism and Christianity, while others are drawn from creative arts and movement.



New SNL Online Courses for Winter 2012

HC 165 China: Money, Power and the 21st Century

The greatest migration of people in the history of the world is occurring right now, in China. Hundreds of millions of people, whose families have lived in rural China for thousands of years, are moving to rapidly urbanizing cities. This migration is being driven by a country transitioning from a rural to an industrial and technological economy in less than two decades. This course analyzes the dramatic impact of this warp speed growth upon jobs, economies, families and individuals in China, the United States and the rest of the world. Through on line discussions, videos, readings, and independent research, students will have the opportunity to form their own viewpoints as to whether the 21st century will become known as 'The Chinese Century.' This course will be taught by Mark Enenbach.

SW 329 Database Development for Managing Information

Using the Office 2010 tools suite (in particular Access 2010), this course will take students through the entire process for building a database system to capture, store and present information. In addition to common database concepts like design and development, students will learn how to plan and build various database objects into a fully functioning system. We will also reflect on how various types of databases interact in our personal and professional lives. This course will be taught by Todd Hover.

Stay Connected with SNL

Are you on Facebook? Become a fan of SNL's Facebook page at <http://facebook.com/snldepaul> where you can find news, information on events, and other important updates.

SNL is also on Twitter! Follow us at <http://twitter.com/snldepaul>

We'd like to invite you to *Connections*, our blog at <http://snlonline.wordpress.com>. You can also link to our blog at <http://snlonline.depaul.edu>. *Connections* is the place for students, faculty, and staff of SNL Online to get to know each other better, offering tips and tricks for online learning, and covering a number of other topics that should be of interest to you. We look forward to your participation in our blog.

SW 250 Widgets, Clicks and Tweets: Essentials of Applied Web Technology

This course will provide students with an overview of the history of the Internet and basic marketing strategies as they relate to the Internet and Web 2.0 technologies. Students will learn about how to keep abreast of new technology, how these technologies can be used to market services and products as well as how they can be used to create and maintain social networks for professional use.

Additional Online Courses Available for Competence

Did you know that many of SNL's new **Degree Completion Major (DCM)** online courses can be taken for SNL competences? Some of these courses are only open to students in the DCM programs, but others can be taken for 1 or 2 SNL competences. Winter term Online courses include:

- Evolving Professional Ethics for an A4 and FX
- Introduction to Statistics for an S2X and an FX
- Effective Group and Personal Dynamics for an H3X and an FX

The course numbers can be found at <http://snl.depaul.edu/WebMedia/StudentResources/Winter12BA.pdf>

Alumni Sharing Knowledge (ASK)

Alumni Sharing Knowledge (ASK) is a network of committed alumni and friends who serve as career mentors, working with students one-on-one, in practice interviews and at job fairs, and speaking at networking events and open houses throughout the university. By sharing accomplishments, insights and connections, the ASK volunteer network can help open important doors for professional growth and networking. There are nearly 1,000 mentors in ASK at any given time who represent a variety of professional expertise to both current students and alumni.

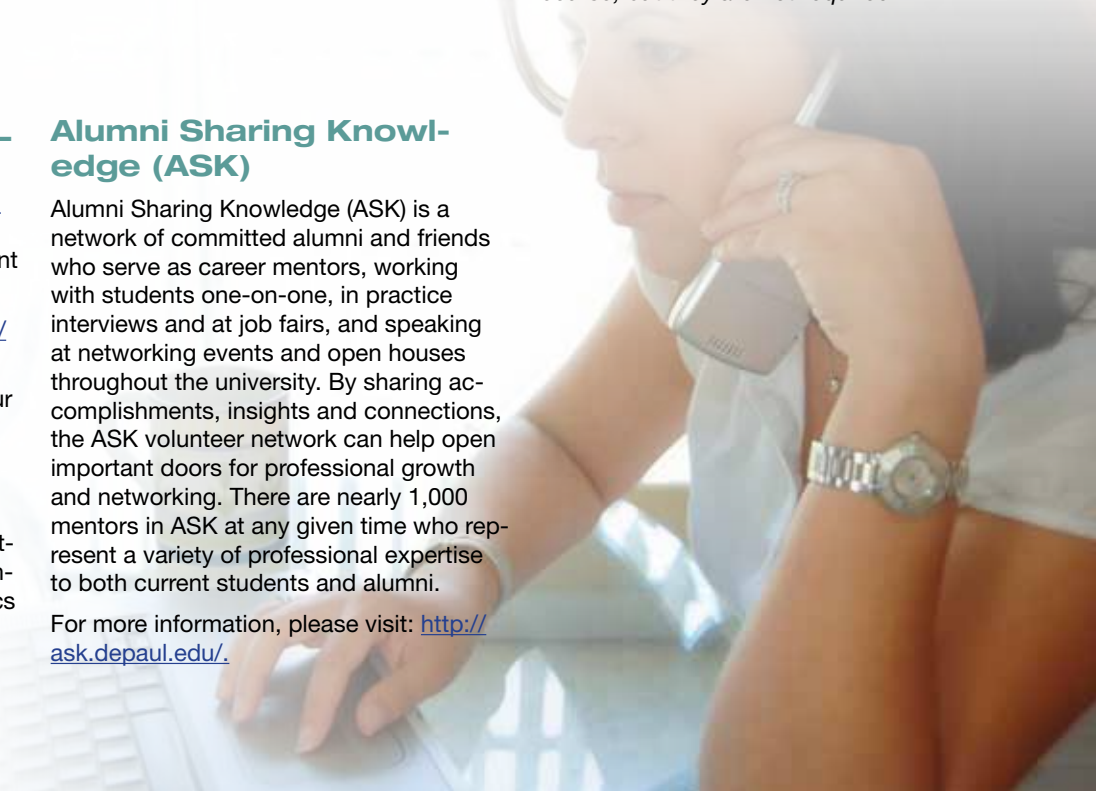
For more information, please visit: <http://ask.depaul.edu/>.

DCM 324: Group and Personal Dynamics

In this online course, new for Winter 2012, you will explore how you perceive others and are perceived by them, how you communicate, and how you operate in groups. You will address some aspects of individual motivation, and delve deeply into group and team processes such as development, leadership and roles, norms, decision-making processes, and dealing with conflict. You will learn theories, including various models for working collaboratively with diverse people in multiple contexts, and apply them to both class activities and the "real world." This course will "push the envelope" for an online course. We will:

- Play learning games and role plays
- Take self-assessments
- Practice skills such as dialogic listening and mapping roles
- Watch and discuss videos, including one full-length feature film and many short clips
- Hold synchronous group meetings, using webinar and chat tools built into the course
- Analyze interactions both within and outside the class.

Note: It is recommended that you have a microphone and web-camera for this course, but they are not required.



Meet Adjunct Faculty Shannon Downey

Tell us about your educational background and where you worked before SNL.

My undergraduate degree is in Anthropology and my masters degree is in Leisure studies but my most powerful educational experience was spending 8 months traveling the world.

How about your work experience?

5 years ago, I founded a marketing agency called Pivotal Production and have been evolving and growing it ever since. We focus on working with brands, agencies and organizations to create digital, social and mobile marketing strategies that amplify and round out their overarching marketing strategy. We work collaboratively to enhance traditional marketing tactics in the digital realm.

What intrigued you most about DePaul and SNL?

I was relatively new to Chicago when I was introduced to the School for New Learning by my colleague and friend Dr. Dan Hibbler. I was immediately attracted to the experiential learning methods and the individualized learning approach the program offers. I am a huge advocate of learning through doing and SNL is doing that exceptionally well.

Besides your work, what are your other interests?

Community involvement is always my biggest priority. I sit on the board of directors for the Woman Made Gallery and the Firebelly Foundation. I am also co-founder of the Grant for Good (www.grantforgood.com) which is a mega marketing grant worth \$500,000 that is awarded to one amazing non-profit each year.

I also blog about my two great passions; Chicago (<http://iknowchicago.tumblr.com>), and Women in Entrepreneurship for Crain's Small Business Blog.

In July, I completed my first Tough Mudder



(<http://www.toughmudder.com>) which is definitely my biggest achievement this year (and maybe the most insane thing I have ever done).

What classes do you teach?

I began by teaching a short-term study abroad course The Cultural Implications of Leisure in Cartagena, Colombia and now teach both Externship and Leisure, Recreation, Health online in the School for New Learning.

What advice would you give to current students taking online classes?

Get creative! I would love to see my students incorporate video or photos to enhance the discussion forums. We are redefining the "classroom" through online learning and I would enjoy seeing students innovate around their participation in the online learning process.

