



THE LION'S ROAR

The monthly newsletter for Penn State Berks



DID YOU KNOW?

COVID Testing Requirements

- Required for students from all campuses
- Test results must be received within the 72 hours prior to the students' return to their campus (updated in the "[Know Your Status](#)" Portal) 
- A negative result from a third-party test will not be accepted
- Students who have tested positive for COVID-19 within the previous 90 days of their arrival are exempted from the required initial testing.
- More information on testing requirements can be found [here](#) 


For a list of *Frequently Asked Questions* and their responses click [here](#) 

REMOTE LEARNING RESOURCES


REMOTE LEARNING ROOMS

Campus classrooms are available for remote learning and do not require a reservation.


For a complete list, visit

<https://berkstech.psu.edu/remote-learning-rooms/> 

THUN LIBRARY RESERVATIONS

Thun Library is open Mon-Fri from 9am-5pm AND until 10pm on Wed!! Reserve a service/space [here](#)  by clicking on the "Location" drop-down menu and selecting your desired space.

COUNSELING SERVICES

For FREE and CONFIDENTIAL counseling on-campus, call or email to schedule an initial phone screening appointment at 610-396-6082 or crt5292@psu.edu 

In Crisis?

- Call **Berks county crisis** hotline at 877-236-4600
- Call the **24/7 Penn State Crisis Line** 877-229-6400 or text LIONS to 741741

Go to Page 5 for more resources!

WHAT'S INSIDE:

- **Did You Know?** (p. 1)
- **Remote Learning Resources** (p. 1)
- **Important Dates** (p. 1)
- **Campus Feature BSU** (p. 2)
- **Engineers Week** (p. 2)
- **LionSide Chats** (p. 3)
- **Thun Library** (p. 3)
- **Advising Info** (p. 4)
- **Financial Aid News** (p. 4)
- **Starfish Alerts** (p. 5)
- **A Berks Bite** (p. 5)

IMPORTANT DATES

Feb 1 - Feb 12 Remote Instruction for all

Feb 3 Billing Statement for Feb available

Feb 9 University Wellness Day*


Feb 13 & 14 Residential Student Move-in

Feb 15 In-person Instruction Resumes**

Feb 22 Installment Plan Payment #2 Due***

***Wellness Day:** Check with your instructor(s) to determine whether or not you have class and/or an assignment on this day.

See **Residential Student Move-in procedures [here](#) 

***If you enrolled in the **installment plan** before the first payment (1/25), this date (2/22) is your second installment. Students may enroll in the Installment Plan until Feb 22. Enrollment requires payment of half of the student's current balance and the installment plan fee of \$45. Read more on this, [here](#) 

CAMPUS FEATURE: BSU

What is Black Student Union (BSU)

- Founded at the Berks campus in 2014, Black Student Union was originally formed by a group of African American friends looking to form a club where students of color--particularly, African American students--could have a safe space to discuss societal issues impacting their environment.

What is BSU's Mission?

- To provide and promote the unity of African American students at Berks Campus. We aim to serve as a voice for Black students and establish a sense of identity, community, and pride.

Who can join BSU?

- Many people assume that because the club is named "Black Student Union" we only allow African American members. That is entirely incorrect. We welcome members of any ethnicity or race. The club is simply a beacon for students who are in the African American community because we haven't always had a voice on campus.

How are members engaged?

- We engage our members with different discussion topics each week. Topics vary from relevant topics happening in our community, to critical approaches on political issues. We have game nights, rant nights, open mic nights, and different activities to keep our members entertained.

Do you have any events coming up?

- With Covid-19 still lingering, we've been planning things around CDC guidelines. We have plans for Black history month and are looking for ways to incorporate in person interaction. One of our most famous events "Being Black at Berks" is in the works!

Connect with us to learn about our upcoming meeting dates!

Club Contact:

EMAIL: Berkbsu@gmail.com


INSTAGRAM: @berksbsu



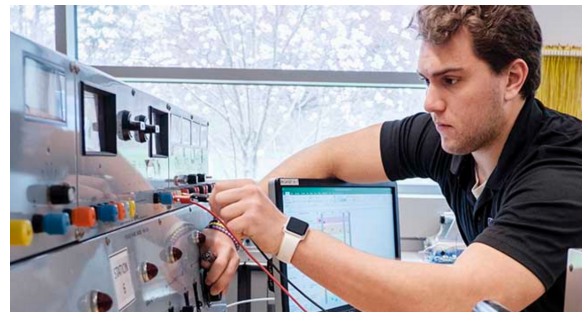
Celebrate National Engineers Week!



In the COMMUNITY


For more information on the Wondrous Wearables contest opportunity, visit the contest webpage [here](#). 

Deadline: Feb. 8, 2021




At PENN STATE BERKS


Engineering Clubs' Elevator Pitch Competition

- Mon, Feb. 22 at 12:15pm via Zoom <https://psu.zoom.us/j/96143639155> 

LionSide Chat "Discovering Engineering at Berks"

- Mon, Feb. 22 at 7pm via Zoom <https://psu.zoom.us/j/97003462963> 

Engineering Achievements of Berks County Escape Room

- From Tues, Feb. 23 (8am) to Fri, Feb. 26 (12pm) 

Visit the [Engineers Week webpage](#) for more events and details!

Lion Side Chat Offerings

Majorly Prepared Series

Join Berks faculty, staff, and students as they discuss the 20 bachelor's degree programs and other educational opportunities available at Penn State Berks. These sessions are open to the public and offered throughout the Spring semester.



Upcoming Sessions:

Feb 5, Feb 10, Feb 15, Feb 22*, Feb 24.

TIME: 12:15pm - 1:15pm (*2/22 offered at 7pm)

TOPICS: 10 Majors and/or Career Paths covered!

ZOOM: <https://psu.zoom.us/j/97003462963> ➡

See which majors are presenting during each sessions by visiting the LionSide Chat website ➡

Resourceful Roundtable

Get to know the offices of Berks and bring your questions with you! Staff and faculty panelists will talk about their department(s), what they are currently doing in the pandemic, and answer student questions.

DATE: Feb 22

TIME: 12:15pm - 1:15pm

TOPIC: Campus Life, Residence Life and Housing and Food Services ➡

ZOOM: <https://psu.zoom.us/j/97003462963>

Upcoming Sessions: March 8 and March 12

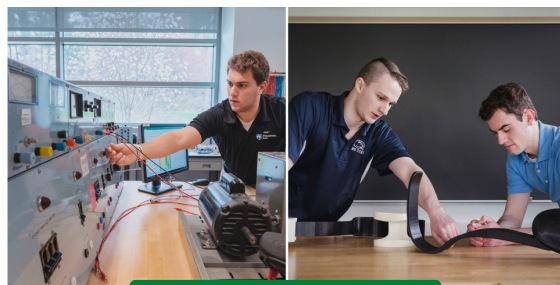
Thun Library Offerings

Synchronous & Asynchronous Research Consultations

- Get a head start on your research projects this semester by scheduling a research consult with a Penn State Berks librarian!
- Request an appointment [here](#) ➡


Up to \$500, University Libraries Undergraduate Research Award at Berks!

- DEADLINE: March 26, 2021
- Eligible entries include HECBC Undergraduate Research & Creativity Conference and other external conference submissions by Penn State Berks students.
- Learn more about the award and our workshop series [here](#) ➡
 - Research Freestyle workshop: Feb. 15 @ 12:15pm via Zoom - <https://psu.zoom.us/j/92005069902> ➡



ACADEMIC ADVISING INFORMATION

General Advising Assistance

Students in DUS (Division of Undergraduate Studies [i.e. undecided]) who want to schedule a Zoom or phone appointment with a DUS Adviser can do so on [Starfish.psu.edu](https://starfish.psu.edu) 

Non-DUS Students should contact their assigned academic adviser. Find your assigned adviser listed in LionPATH. *Note, Non-DUS students are welcome to schedule an appointment with DUS advisers. Please email or call to schedule.*

For Quick Advising Questions:
Email bkadvisingcenter@psu.edu 

To Schedule an Appointment:
Call 610-396-6280



Summer Course Enrollment

Check your LionPATH Student "Home Base" (i.e., your dashboard) for an Enrollment Appointment date between late February and early March. Once that is posted, the schedule of classes will be available.

CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING

- Summer registration is available on a first-come, first serve basis.
- Students can schedule classes at any Penn State campus!
- Stay on track towards degree completion by speaking with your academic adviser before enrolling!


SUMMER COURSES 2021

Contact Financial Aid to determine if you might be eligible for aid.


FINANCIAL AID NEWS

2021-2022 FAFSA

Returners, complete FAFSA for 2021-2022!

- You can file your 21-22 FAFSA by  [clicking here](#).
- PA residents, submit BEFORE May 1, 2021 for PHEAA State grant consideration.
- Have your 2019 tax info!

If you already completed the 2021-2022 FAFSA, you may see verification requests.

The requests will be for the aid year of "2022" in LionPATH. For questions about verification, learn more [here](#) 


Are you making SAP?

What is SAP?

Satisfactory Academic Progress is reviewed yearly and determines a student's Federal financial aid eligibility.

SAP: Two Key Factors

- Cumulative GPA of a 2.00 or higher
- Completion rate of 67% or higher.
This means passing 67% of the TOTAL credits (not courses) you have ever attempted at Penn State.

For more information on this policy, [click here](#). 

Contact Financial Aid

Phone: 610-396-6070

No answer? Leave a message with your name, phone number, 9-digit PSU ID number, and reason for calling
Email: BerksFinAid@psu.edu



Here to help you succeed!

What is Starfish??

Starfish is an online system that connects you to the people and services that can help YOU navigate YOUR education. Starfish does this by facilitating communication between your advisor, instructors, and support services.

Check Your PSU Email



During weeks 3-4 and 7-8 of each semester, instructors are prompted to comment on student progress in their class(es) utilizing Starfish. Pay special attention to this time period for important feedback, which will come from:

notices@starfishsolutions.com
TIP: Do NOT delete this email. It is NOT spam.



Get Started NOW!



Upload a picture, set your preferences, and explore! sites.psu.edu/starfishinfo



Don't Make Assumptions!

If you do NOT receive notices from instructors, do not assume that this means that you are in the clear! Instructors have the option of notifying students of their progress in their class--not all instructors complete Starfish reports.

TIP: Make an appointment with your instructor(s) to discuss your progress.

I received a Starfish notification, now what do I do?



Take Action Immediately!

MEET: Discuss the feedback with your Instructor.
REFLECT: Which behaviors contributed to the feedback?
COMMIT: Make improvements to see greater success.

A Berks Bite: Chocolate Truffle Pie



Ingredients

- 1 $\frac{1}{4}$ pkg. (10 squares) Baker's Semi-Sweet Baking Chocolate
- $\frac{1}{2}$ cup whipping cream
- 4 eggs
- $\frac{1}{2}$ cup sugar
- $\frac{1}{4}$ cup flour

Optional

- 1 cup whipped topping (thawed)




Instructions

- Preheat oven to 325°F.
- Place chocolate in large microwaveable bowl, add whipping cream, and microwave on HIGH for 2 mins (or until chocolate is almost melted). Stir until chocolate is completely melted and let it cool slightly.
- Add eggs, sugar and flour then beat with wire whisk until well blended. Pour into lightly greased 9-inch pie pan.
- Bake for 35 mins or until the outer half of pie is puffed but center is still slightly soft.
- Cool.
- Decorate with powdered sugar sprinkled on the top. Serve with whipped topping if desired.
- Store in refrigerator.

Recipe courtesy of Dr. Paula Plageman

We offer FREE TUTORING!

Get started EARLY!!

For help with Math, Science, or Study Skills make an appointment with our Learning Center Tutors here 

For help with a paper, speech, resume, or other written material make an appointment with our Writing Center Tutors here 