OCTOBER 2021 | VOL. 10

THE LION'S ROAR

The monthly newsletter for Penn State Berks

FREE TUTORING AVAILABLE!

Need help with Math, Science or Study Skills?

 Make an appointment with our Learning Center Tutors <u>here</u>

Need help with a paper, speech, resume or other written material?

 Make an appointment with our Writing Center Tutors <u>here</u>

Feeling like you don't know how to prepare properly for tests or exams?

- Take 30 minutes to meet with Sonia to review what you do and learn how you can improve!
- Email Sonia at scd14@psu.edu to set up an appointment TODAY!

CHECK YOUR LIONPATH!

Keep your Penn State account in good standing by checking LionPATH for Holds or To-Do List items that might prevent:

- Financial aid from dispersing
- Course registration for next semester
- Access to your official transcript Connect with your Academic Adviser, Financial Aid, and/or the Bursar's Office for help!



Penn State Berks COVID Resources

<u>KeepLearning.psu.edu</u>: Offers student support for remote learning, resources for academic advising and tutoring, and contact information.

<u>VirusInfo.psu.edu</u>: Penn State's primary website. Features links to latest PSU news and answers to frequently asked questions. The site's resources page contains links to:

- dedicated resources for students and employees
- information on COVID testing, contact tracing, and monitoring for the campus community
- classroom and office guidance policies on masking and social distancing

Family and Homecoming Weekend 2021! OCTOBER 15TH - 17TH

Register to attend by clicking here! Please register by October 8th.

What else is happening on campus in October?

Unity Day

• Wednesday, October 13th at 12:15pm on the Perkins Lawn

Latino forum

Friday, October 15th at 9:30am in the Perkins Auditorium
<u>Please register here to attend the Latino Forum in person!</u>

Majon Possibilities Carnival

• Monday, October 18th at 12:15pm on the Perkins Lawn

Poet Laureate. Shara McCallum

• Monday, October 25th at 7:30pm in the Perkins Student Center Auditorium

Looking forward to Common Read Week Nov. 1st!





APVISING ANNOUNCEMENTS

Important Dates

October 4 - 13: Mid-semester Progress Reporting

Learn more about what to do after you've received
 Starfish feedback by <u>clicking here.</u>

October 6 (12:15pm - 1:15pm) Advising Meetings

- Learn what is new in your major or College and advising recommendations.
- <u>Access your major meeting by clicking here</u>

November 12: Late Drop Deadline

• Last day to drop course(s); now is the time to check with your academic adviser and financial aid.

Grade Forgiveness

If you repeated a course and earned a higher grade, you can replace the lower grade with the higher grade! While the original grade remains on the transcript, grade point averages are calculated without the forgiven (lower) grade! This can help students increase their cumulative GPA and improve their academic standing.

Talk with your academic adviser to learn more!

Read the policy <u>here</u>



The Academic Advising Office is located in 160 Franco Building Phone: 610-396- 6280

Academic Self-Assessment

- How are your classes going?
- Are you getting the grades you want?
- Are you enjoying your classes?
- Are you working towards the right major?

Questions? Schedule a meeting with your Academic Advisor today!

Spring 2021 Course Enrollment

Check LionPATH to see your course enrollment date for next semester. Keep in mind that those with Priority Registration typically enroll in courses sooner. The sooner you schedule next semester's courses, the more likely you are to get the courses you want/need!

IMPORTANT: Look for Holds and/or To-Do List items on your LionPATH student dashboard. If you have a hold on your account and/or have an unpaid balance, you won't be able to schedule classes for next semester .

Connect with Financial Aid, Bursar, and any other offices as necessary BEFORE your enrollment date so you can ensure all issues are resolved before you schedule.



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Financial Aid News

FAFSA for 2022-2023 academic year opens October 1st, 2021!

- You can file your 2022-2023 FAFSA by clicking here. Make time to get it done sooner rather than later!
- If you are a Pennsylvania resident, you want to have it submitted BEFORE May 1, 2022 to be considered for the PHEAA State grant.
- Remember, for the 2022-2023 FAFSA, you will need to provide 2020 tax information.

Before you start your FAFSA, check out this article (click here) which offers some great tips and common mistakes to avoid.



Phone: 610-396-6070 Email: BerksFinAid@psu.edu Office: 14 Perkins Student Center





RESIDEN

Name: G. Michael Shott Jr. Ū **Major: Communication Arts & Sciences** S Minor: Civic and Community Engagement ш Hometown: Reading, PA FEATUR <u>Question:</u> How do you make the most of what Berks has to offer? "I make the most of what Berks has to offer by having the courage to ask that question, write that email, knock on that door. CAMPUS Doing so has made all the difference in my journey so far. The wonderful people at Berks will meet you halfway, but you have to show up and take the first step. Everything else is in the details."

Thun Library

Fall 2021 Hours

Monday - Thursday: 9am – 10pm Friday: 9am – 5pm Saturday: Closed Sunday: 2pm - 8pm To reserve a study room, search for textbook course reserves, and review equipment to borrow, <u>visit this webpage</u>

Support for Students

Penn State offers a wide range of support to students in need. If you are concerned about yourself or someone else, please reach out today! <u>Click the bold underline links below!</u>

<u>Counseling Services</u> are available on campus at Penn State Berks <u>Care Report Form</u> when concerns regarding academics, physical or mental health/safety, or finances arises.

<u>Sexual Misconduct</u> when concerns regarding sexual harassment, sexual misconduct, dating violence, domestic violence, or stalking occur.

<u>Bias Reporting</u> when there are concerns regarding bias, intolerance, discrimination, harassment, and/or incivility.



LIONSIDE CHATS

Join us for the Upcoming LionSide Chats!

- We Are Advised October 4 at 12:15pm
- **Origins of Culture** October 11 at 12:15pm
- We Are Professional October 20 at 12:15pm



This newsletter is made possible by the joint efforts of the Student Success & Retention Committee, DUS Academic Advising Center, the Learning Center, and the Office of Admissions & Enrollment Management