

THE LION'S ROAR

The monthly newsletter for Penn State Berks

SNEAK PEEK OF WHAT'S INSIDE:

Did You Know?
Important Reminders
Advising Announcements
Campus Feature
Financial Aid News
Opportunities for Growth

DID YOU KNOW?

Grade Forgiveness

If you repeated a course and earned a higher grade, you can replace the 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.

LEARN MORE!

Talk with your academic adviser!

Read the policy [here](#)



Late Drop Deadline

Nov. 13 at 11:59p.m. (ET) is the deadline to drop a course. Always speak with your professor, Academic Adviser, and Financial Aid before dropping a course! Most students are surprised at the impact dropping a single course can have!



IMPORTANT REMINDERS

FREE TUTORING AVAILABLE!

Need help with Math, Science or Study Skills?

- Make an appointment with our Learning Center Tutors [here](#)



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

- Make an appointment with our Writing Center Tutors [here](#)



CHECK 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!

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ADVISING ANNOUNCEMENTS

Important Dates

October 5 - 14: Mid-semester Progress Reporting

- Learn more about what to do after you've received Starfish feedback by [clicking here](#).



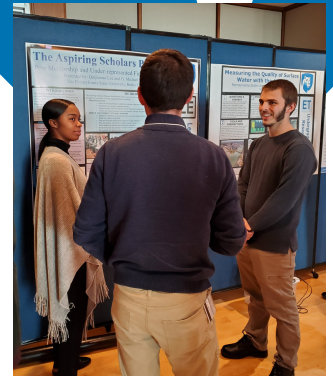
October 7 (12:15pm - 1:15pm) Advising Meetings

- Learn what is new in your major or College and advising recommendations.
- Access your major/college meeting [HERE](#)



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.



CAMPUS FEATURE: SGA PRESIDENT

Name: G. Michael Shott Jr.

Major: Communication Arts & Sciences

Minor: Civic and Community Engagement

Hometown: Reading, PA

Question: 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. 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."




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FINANCIAL AID NEWS

FAFSA IS OPEN!

FAFSA for 2021-2022 academic year opens **October 1st, 2020!**

- You can file your 2021-2022 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, 2021 to be considered for the PHEAA State grant.
- Remember, for the 2021-2022 FAFSA, you will need to provide **2019 tax information**.

Before you start, check out [this article \(click here\)](#), which offers some great tips and  common mistakes to avoid.



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?

Seizing Success

Looking for academic support? Consider joining the Seizing Success Program! To sign-up and learn more, reach out to Ms. Alexa Hodge at aeh221@psu.edu

Upcoming sessions

Week 7: Wednesday, Oct. 7 at 12:15pm

- Topic: Guided Study

Week 8: Monday, Oct. 12 at 12:15pm

- Topic: It's about time

Week 9: Wednesday, Oct. 21 at 12:15pm

- Topic: Making Connections & Guided Study Session

Week 10: Monday, Oct. 26 @ 12:15pm

- Topic: Penn State Systems & Deadlines

OPPORTUNITIES FOR GROWTH