Special Programs

ACADEMIC COMMON MARKET

The Academic Common Market, a program coordinated by the Southern Regional Education Board (SREB), provides students in 16 southern states the opportunity to enroll in selected programs at public institutions in other states and pay in-state tuition. To qualify a student must:

• be a resident of one of the 16 SREB states;
• select a program eligible for residents of his/her home state;
• complete the admission process at the institution offering the eligible Academic Common Market program;
• be certified as a resident of the home state by contacting the ACM coordinator for the student’s state of residence.

For more information, contact the Office of the Provost at (304) 367-4101 or visit www.sreb.org.

ADULT LEARNING CENTER

Kay Pitrolo
(304) 367-4873

Support services for the learning needs of all students are available through Pierpont Community & Technical College and the Adult Learning Center. Through the Center, students can receive support services in the following areas:

• Enhance skills in mathematics, oral and written communication, and reading to assist with WorkKeys Skills.
• Study for Civil Service Test Preparation and ACT Test Preparation.

• Study to pass the GED (high school equivalency diploma.)
• Gain skills to meet entrance requirements for vocational and other higher educational placement programs.
• Obtain computer skills needed in today’s information society.
• Complete career interest inventories and learning style inventories.
• Testing for student grade levels in math, reading, and language.

The West Virginia Department of Education recognizes that today’s workplace presents numerous opportunities and challenges for adults in West Virginia. It is our aim to effectively serve the foundational learning needs of diverse groups and provide a learning system that is flexible and responsive to individual needs.

ACADEMY FOR THE ARTS

Art, music, and drama classes and private lessons taught by student and professional instructors are available to community, college, secondary and elementary students for an additional fee. Information may be obtained by contacting the School of Fine Arts office. College credit is not awarded for these courses.

COMMUNITY SERVICE LEARNING

Service Learning is a national movement utilized in a number of colleges and universities in the United States. It is the process of integrating volunteer community service with active guided reflection which enhances student understanding of course material. The distinguishing characteristic of service learning is its twofold emphasis
on both enriching student learning and revitalizing the community. To accomplish this, effective service learning initiatives involve students in:

- Understanding the connections between textbook and experiential knowledge;
- Enhancing students’ self-esteem through meaningful contributions to the community;
- Engaging students in decision making, critical thinking, and application of learned skills;
- Providing human resources to meet the educational, human, safety and environmental needs of the community;
- Creating a spirit of civic responsibility and leadership.

The pedagogy of service learning represents a substantial change from the traditional curriculum and promotes education as a “process of living” which encourages the processing of information, as well as its accumulation. This constant restructuring of information exemplifies the continuity and reality that exists between life experience and knowledge. Community Service Learning courses are coordinated by Amy Drvar in the Office of Civic Engagement as part of the Career Development Center located in the Turley Student Services Center.

THE ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE (ESL) PROGRAM

The English as a Second Language (ESL) intensive English program is open only to non-native speakers of English who have a serious desire to improve their language skills. This challenging ESL program is useful to working professionals and to students preparing for university study or professional programs. The program has been offered since 1989 and follows the standards set by the National Association of Foreign Student Advisors (NAFSA) and Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL).

The ESL Program offers three sessions yearly and follows the traditional academic schedule. Classes meet six hours daily, five days per week. In order to accommodate varying academic schedules, students may apply at any time.

The course of study is based on an integrated skills approach with listening, speaking, reading, grammar, and writing components. Fluency and accuracy in both spoken and written English are emphasized. Classes average ten students. The small class size allows each participant a maximum amount of individual attention and an opportunity to develop conversational skills. ESL classes do not count toward graduation.

English as a Second Language classes at any specific level, beginning through advanced, will depend on sufficient enrollment. For more information on the ESL Program, please contact Geneva Hines, Director of International Student Services, at 304-367-4490.

THE FRANK & JANE GABOR WEST VIRGINIA FOLKLIFE CENTER

Patricia Musick
(304) 367-4403 or (304) 367-4286
www.fairmontstate.edu/wvfolklife/default.asp

The Frank & Jane Gabor West Virginia Folklife Center is dedicated to the identification, preservation, and perpetuation of our region’s rich cultural heritage, through academic studies; educational programs, festivals, and performances; and publications.

Named to the National Register of Historic Places, 2006, the location of the Folklife Center is an adaptive reuse of historic properties on the west side of campus, formerly known as The Colonial Apartments (c.1941) and The Kennedy Barn site (c.1903) on the original location of the Michael Kennedy Dairy Farm. Mailing Address: 1201 Locust Avenue, Fairmont, WV 26554

ACADEMIC STUDIES

The study of folklore and folklife involves examination and analysis of traditional expressive culture in all its forms, including oral, customary, and material. In every society, agricultural and industrial, rural and urban, folklore is a vital part of life. In higher education, then, since folklore is a study of the humanist expression which is handed down by tradition rather than by writing, it is related to all departments that deal with literature, art, and music. Since folklore also deals with the entire traditional culture of mankind as manifested in customs and beliefs, it has close affiliations with anthropology, psychology, sociology, history, philosophy, linguistics, design and pedagogy.

One of the features of the Gabor WV Folklife Center is a 19-hour interdisciplinary academic minor that can be attached to most liberal arts majors. As an academic program in the Department of Language and Literature of The College of Liberal Arts, a folkloric studies specialization poises the student for graduate studies and professional involvement in such areas as preservation, archiving, teaching, curating, historical parks and museums management, entertainment, and storytelling.

Pierpont Community & Technical College, in association with The Frank & Jane Gabor West Virginia Folklife Center, offers certificate programs in both Museum Studies and Folk Arts & Crafts apprenticeship. In addition, Museum Studies is a concentration option in the Associate of Arts Liberal Studies program.

ARCHIVES

The Gabor WV Folklife Center houses the unpublished folklore estate of Ruth Ann Musick, folk tale scholar, who was the archivist for the WV Folklife Society and editor of West Virginia Folklore Journal that was published at Fairmont State. Dr. Musick bequeathed to Fairmont State her folklore estate for academic study, programming, and publications.

Various other artifact collections have been placed in the Folklife Center Archives, and resources to properly process and store these artifacts have been obtained. The Gabor WV Folklife Center actively seeks donations of any artifacts that will help interpret West Virginia folklore. This may include photographs, family memorabilia, journals, letters, oral histories and folklore, and any other materials
of such nature.

**PUBLICATIONS**

The Frank and Jane Gabor West Virginia Folklife Center publishes two journals through the Fairmont State Press established in 2004.

- **Traditions** is a journal of West Virginia folk culture and educational awareness. First published in 1993, this annual periodical emerged from the West Virginia Humanities Summer Seminar for Teachers, Appalachian Culture: Texture, Text, and Context, a Folkloric Approach to Learning. Traditions is the continuation of West Virginia Folklore, published at Fairmont State from 1951 to 1983. Traditions is supported by Fairmont State University, the Gabor WV Folklife Center, and the West Virginia Humanities Council.

- **Hillchild** is a folklore chapbook about, for, and by children of West Virginia. First published in 2002, it is supported by Fairmont State University, the Gabor WV Folklife Center, and the West Virginia Humanities Council.

In addition to producing Traditions and Hillchild, the Press has published a memoir, The Dulcimer Man: The Russell Fluharty Story and companion CD, Russell Fluharty Playing the Hammered Dulcimer, and From a Place Called Solid: West Virginia and Its Writers, a literary map of West Virginia.

**SPECIAL PROGRAMMING**

**Awards**

- **B.B. Maurer WV Folklife Scholar Award** annually honors a person who has made an outstanding contribution to the preservation and perpetuation of our Appalachian cultural heritage, this award is named for Dr. B.B. Maurer (1920 - 2003), considered the “Father of Cultural Studies in West Virginia.”

- **The Gabor WV Folklife Center Achievement Award** is a special recognition award in an area of folklore studies.

- **The Traditions Salute Award** is an award that recognizes special commitment towards the enhancement of West Virginia folk culture through education and public resources.

  Summer Teacher Institutes in partnership with the West Virginia Humanities Council,

**Folk Festivals, Summer Celebrations, and Events**

- Fall and Spring Gatherings: Demonstrations, Exhibits, Presentations
- Study Abroad Travel Programs, such as Roads to Appalachia through Scotland and Ireland; Italy; England and Wales; Eastern Europe; Germanic Roots.

**FRASURE-SINGLETON STUDENT LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM**

The Frasure-Singleton Student Legislative Program provides students the opportunity to observe the West Virginia Legislature for one week during its regular legislative session. Participants are assigned to a legislator who assists in explaining the legislative process. They attend committee meetings and public hearings where legislation and issues are discussed. They sit on the Floor during daily sessions, surrounded by legislators with issue research, constituent requests and other legislative tasks. In addition, participants meet with representatives from all branches of state government, lobbyists, reporters, and legislative staffs.

The program is open to full-time college sophomores, juniors, and seniors from all fields of study. Applicants must be in good academic standing and have successfully completed at least one Political Science course. Participants will earn one semester hour of credit.

For more information, contact the Political Science Department at (304) 367-4161 or email aridgway1@fairmontstate.edu.

**HERNDON LEGISLATIVE FELLOWS PROGRAM**

The primary goal of this program is to instruct selected full-time undergraduates in the theory and operation of legislative bodies in multi-dimensional roles. Participants will be designated as legislative interns and will perform assignments in the West Virginia Legislature for the duration of its session. They will spend a full semester in the study of the operation, role, and functions of legislative bodies.

To be eligible for this program, students must have completed a minimum of 60 undergraduate semester hours or equivalent, with a grade point average sufficient to admit them to the degree program of their choice. At the time of application, students must be enrolled at their home institutions on a full-time basis and cannot be on academic or social probation. Students may not serve as interns if they are subsequently placed on academic or social probation for the period which would include the internship. Each applicant must have taken at least one college course in political science unless, in the judgment of the selection committee, the student's record displays an active and sustained interest in public affairs or the political process, at which time the course requirement may be waived. For additional information, contact the Political Science Department at (304) 367-4161 or email aridgway1@fairmontstate.edu.

**THE HONORS PROGRAM**

J. Robert Baker, Director
225 Turley Center / (304) 367-4791 or (304) 367-4260
JRRobert.Baker@fairmontstate.edu

Fairmont State University’s Honors Program identifies and encourages highly motivated, academically superior students. Working within a curriculum that promotes engagement and participation, these students enroll in Honors sections of general studies classes. The faculty teaching these Honors sections are among the best the University has to offer. Honors sections are designated in the published schedule of courses each semester and noted on students’ transcripts. Additionally, students in the program complete a senior project that may be split into separate, even disparate, parts.
The Honors Program encourages students to work closely with other Honors students and the Honors faculty to explore ideas from various perspectives. Beyond the curriculum, Honors students participate in field trips, lectures, and cultural events.

Honors students may apply to live in the Honors Residence Hall, which offers a supportive community in which Honors students can study and enjoy co-curricular activities with like-minded students. Students also have the benefit of the Honors Faculty in Residence who lives in the Honors Residence Hall and is available for academic advice and support, as well as informal counsel.

Honors courses vary according to the program of study each student designs. Generally, however, students take two Honors courses each semester during their first two years at Fairmont State University. During their senior year, students complete six hours for a senior project linked to their majors. This project allows students to apply their developing intellectual skills in independent research, internships, and creative projects; it is designed also to help prepare students for graduate study or employment. At a minimum, students need thirty-one to thirty-two credit hours in Honors courses to complete the Honors Program, but students are encouraged to take more than the minimum in order to deepen their education.

GENERAL STUDIES

Honors Seminar..................................................1 credit hour
Honors Composition..............................................3 credit hours
Honors Literature ..................................................3 credit hours
Honors U.S. History ..................................................3 credit hours
Honors Philosophy or World Civilizations ..................3 credit hours
Honors Fine Arts or Communications........................3 credit hours
Honors Social Science .............................................3 credit hours
Honors Interdisciplinary Studies................................3 credit hours

SENIOR PROJECT IN HONORS .........................6 credit hours

LEADERSHIP CERTIFICATION

Fairmont State University provides students with the opportunity to develop their leadership abilities, regardless of their academic major or minor. Leadership Certification is an interdisciplinary humanities program based in the liberal arts and grounded in theory and practical experience. It is designed to enhance a student’s college career by linking leadership to self-awareness, personal growth, organizational theory and practical experience in community service.

Required Courses:
• Leadership Certification................................. 10 SEM. HRS.

  INTR 2280  EMPOWERING LEADERSHIP ...............................3
  INTR 2281  GREAT IDEAS OF LEADERS .................................3
  MGMT 3390  HUMAN BEHAVIOR IN ORGANIZATIONS ..................3
  -OR-  PSYC 4410  THEORIES OF PERSONALITY .........................3
  HUSV 1103  COMMUNITY SERVICE LEARNING .....................1
  -OR-  PHI THETA KAPPA LEADERSHIP CERTIFICATE ..................1

For more information on Leadership Certification contact:
J. Robert Baker
311 Jaynes Hall/(304)367-4717
JRobert.Baker@fairmontstate.edu

PRE-PROFESSIONAL AND PRE-PROGRAM STUDIES

Pre-professional and pre-program studies are not academic majors; rather, they are designed to prepare students to apply to a program or school that awards a specific degree. Two distinct types of preparatory studies exist at Fairmont State University.

1) Pre-professional studies prepare students to apply to professional schools at another institution after they have completed specific undergraduate coursework at Fairmont State University. Professional schools include medical, dental, engineering, pharmacy, physical therapy, veterinary or law school. Admission to professional schools is highly competitive and often requires successful completion of standardized tests and other special requirements. All students who plan to apply to professional schools are asked to declare an academic major and pursue a 4-year degree at Fairmont State University while completing the coursework specified by the professional school they desire to attend. Students who indicate an interest in pre-professional study will be given an advisor in the major area and an advisor specific to the pre-professional study they plan to pursue. Students should also carefully consult the catalog of the professional school that they plan to attend.

2) Pre-program studies prepare students to apply to a competitive undergraduate degree program, either at Fairmont State University or at a different institution. Before a student is accepted into the nursing program, for example, he or she will be assigned a pre-nursing advisor and will have no official major. Pre-program status exists for both two-year and four-year programs.
   a. Pre-program studies for which a degree program exists at Fairmont State University include pre-education, pre-veterinary technology, pre-physical therapy assisting, pre-medical laboratory technology, pre-health information technology, and pre-emergency medical services.
   b. Pre-program studies for which a degree program exists at other institutions, but for which a student can prepare while at Fairmont State University, include pre-radiation technology, pre-respiratory care, pre-medical technology and pre-journalism.

Please refer to the College of Science and Technology for:

PRE-DENTAL CURRICULUM
PRE-ENGINEERING CURRICULUM
PRE-MEDICAL CURRICULUM
PRE-MEDICAL TECHNOLOGY CURRICULUM
PRE-PHARMACY CURRICULUM
PRE-PHYSICAL THERAPY CURRICULUM
**PUBLIC AFFAIRS INTERNSHIPS**

The Political Science Department regularly becomes aware of internship opportunities at the local, state, and federal levels of government. These internships can be with members of the state House of Delegates and Senate, the United States Congress, city managers, public interest groups, or state and federal agencies. Internships can take place during the semester or during the summer months. While most of the internships do not include a salary, academic credit can be earned.

For more information, contact the Political Science Department at (304) 367-4161 or email aridgway1@fairmontstate.edu.

**REGENTS BACHELOR OF ARTS (RBA) DEGREE PROGRAM**

Pamela Stephens, Coordinator of the RBA Degree Program
317 Turley Student Services Center / (304) 367-4801
Pamela.Stephens@fairmontstate.edu

The Regents Bachelor of Arts (RBA) Degree Program is a flexible, nontraditional program designed for adults in the belief that they are distinctly different from traditional undergraduates in their educational needs. The program can be tailored to fit those who need a degree for career advancement, those who have an associate degree in a field in which there is no corresponding bachelor’s degree available, or those who seek intellectual development and personal fulfillment. The RBA degree has particular appeal for persons who have completed some college work in past years but did not obtain a degree.

**ADMISSION**

A student is admitted to the RBA Degree Program by submitting the special application form to the Coordinator of the RBA Degree Program. Admission to this degree program does not provide for automatic admission to other programs at Fairmont State University. Applicants must have graduated from high school at least four years before admission to the program. Persons with high school equivalency certificates may be admitted four years after their high school class graduated. If an applicant has previous college credit, failing grades of F received four years or more before admission to the RBA program are disregarded. Any RBA student must reapply and meet all admission requirements when changing from the Regents Bachelor of Arts (RBA) Degree Program to any other degree program at Fairmont State University.

**REQUIREMENTS**

To qualify for graduation, candidates must accumulate a total of 120 semester hours of credit with a quality point average of 2.00. At least 39 hours must be at the upper (3300 or 4400) level. Students must complete 36 semester hours of General Studies courses, including the required semester hours in each of the following areas: Communications (6), Social Sciences (6), Natural Sciences (6), Mathematics or Computer Science (3), Humanities (6), and 9 additional General Studies hours. At least 24 semester hours must be taken in the West Virginia State System of Higher Education. The RBA is an interdisciplinary degree with no major. The program can be tailored to meet the needs of individual students.

**COLLEGE-EQUIVALENT CREDIT**

A unique feature of the RBA Degree Program is the possibility of obtaining college-equivalent credit. Credit may be awarded for learning that has taken place outside of a college, if the learning is equivalent to the outcomes taught in college-level courses. The learning may have resulted from work experience, on-the-job training, personal study, the pursuit of hobbies, or from a formal vocational program offered outside of a college or university, such as a hospital nursing course or military service training courses. College-equivalent credit is awarded only for the acquisition of knowledge or skills equivalent to the knowledge or skills acquired in college courses. An applicant for college-equivalent credit will prepare a portfolio, which presents in writing a detailed description of the knowledge or skills acquired outside of the college setting. Supporting documents, such as job descriptions and certificates for the completion of training programs, must be included. Directions for portfolio preparation are available for enrolled students in the RBA Office. The portfolio will be reviewed by appropriate faculty members at Fairmont State University or by other experts if a field of study is involved that is not offered by the University. The faculty members will then recommend the hours of credit to be awarded by subject at the upper and lower levels, equating the credit with existing Fairmont State University course offerings. A fee has been established for the assessment process and for the awarding of college-equivalent credit.

For more information on the RBA program, contact Pamela Stephens, Coordinator of the RBA Degree Program, 317 Turley Student Services Center, (304) 367-4801.

**STUDY ABROAD PROGRAMS**

In keeping with a desire to provide more direct student enrichment programs in international education, Fairmont State University provides Study Abroad opportunities to students enrolled in a formal degree or certificate program. Students may receive collegiate academic credit for study and experience occurring outside the United States by enrollment in:

1) ISEP (International Student Exchange Program) www.isep.org
2) University of Calabria at Rende, Province of Cosenza, Italy;
3) Travel-study programs sponsored by Fairmont State University;
4) a resident study abroad or travel-study program sponsored by FACDIS (The West Virginia Consortium for Faculty and Course Development in International Studies);
5) a program directed by faculty members from other West Virginia institutions;
6) a program sponsored by a US college or university or Consortium with institutional approval;
7) a foreign university as a special student;
8) an accredited US college or university abroad or
9) a program sponsored by an organization other than a college or university, with Fairmont State University’s approval.

Students will be required to obtain prior consent from their academic unit before registering for study abroad programs.

Although such international experience is not required in all programs, study abroad is strongly recommended for students not only in the field of foreign languages, but in other fields as well (such as the humanities, social sciences, business, art, etc.). Resident study abroad programs or travel-study programs will be integrated with traditional academic courses offered at Fairmont State University and will become part of the regular institutional curriculum. Study abroad is an important component of a comprehensive studies program which can contribute to the development and growth of the individual student and prepare the student to function more effectively in a global society. Participants in such programs will enhance their preparation for further graduate or professional studies and employment while deriving countless other benefits.

For additional information, visit the Study Abroad LibGuide at http://guides.library.fairmontstate.edu/studyabroad or contact the Study Abroad Advisor, Dr. Erin Hippolyte Erin.Hippolyte@fairmontstate.edu.

THE UNIVERSITY OF CALABRIA EXCHANGE PROGRAM

Fairmont State University offers an exchange partnership in which students may spend a semester or academic year studying abroad at the University of Calabria (UNICAL). Located in southern Italy, the University of Calabria was founded in 1972 as a state-run university and is one of just a few campus universities in Italy. Modeled from British and North-American campuses, the buildings are situated along a suspension bridge, approximately one mile long. Students live in specific residential blocks near the campus. The whole structure is swathed in green hills near Arcavacata di Rende, a small village six miles from Cosenza in the Region of Calabria. Today, UNICAL has a student population of 35,000, many from around the world, preparing for bachelor, master, and doctoral degrees in six faculties (colleges of academic programming): humanities/letters/ philosophy, economics, political sciences, engineering, sciences, and pharmacy. Strategically located in the heart of the Mediterranean world, students at UNICAL have many opportunities to travel to other parts of Italy and surrounding countries during the exchange period. Students wanting to participate in the University of Calabria Exchange Program are required to have completed two semesters of Italian or demonstrate the equivalent language proficiency. Classes in elementary and intermediate Italian are offered through the Department of Language and Literature in the College of Liberal Arts at FSU.

In turn, as part of the exchange partnership, FSU is listed as one of the 26 destinations that UNICAL students may consider for their international study abroad experience. Under the direction of the university’s International Relations Unit, called Erasmus, UNICAL students are selected for a study abroad experience of one semester or an academic year through a competitive scholarship process of academic application and review. For additional information about the University of Calabria, visit its website www.unical.it. For more information about the UNICAL Exchange Program contact The Office of the Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs, Dr. Christina Lavorata Chris.Lavorata@fairmontstate.edu.

THE WASHINGTON CENTER INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

The Washington Center for Internships and Academic Seminars gives students the opportunity to live and work in one of the most important cities in the world, and to experience the professional arena, cultural diversity and educational opportunities of the nation’s capital. If accepted into the program, students are placed with a program manager who helps them obtain an internship in the field of their choice, whether it be for-profit, nonprofit or government work. The Washington Center Internship allows students to:
• Develop professional skills
• Clarify personal goals
• Improve research and communication skills
• Meet people from across the country and the world
• Prepare for life after college
• Give perspective on their studies
• Investigate a profession of interest
• Apply academic learning to the work world

For additional information, contact the Office of Career Development Center at (304) 367-4214 or email careers@fairmontstate.edu.