

The Online Programs Newsletter

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Greetings from the Director of Online Programs

We are starting to get through the rainy days of spring and look ahead to sunny summer! We hope all our students have a great summer and look ahead to beginning online programs or continuing their online courses in the fall. For students taking online summer courses, please be sure to review summer session important dates! Summer

courses do begin in May, June, and July.

Please reach out to us in the Online Programs Office at 717-871-7200 or onlineprograms@millersville.edu with any questions!

Rebecca Boyer
Director of Online Programs



MU's EPPiIC Values

- Exploration
- Public Mission
- Professionalism
- Inclusion
- Integrity
- Compassion

Look for more details about our EPPiIC values in this and future newsletters.

Gearing Up for the Fall Semester - Important Dates

Fall class registration has been active since April. As an online student, you are automatically registered for classes based on the academic plan your advisor created specifically for you.

You can check your fall schedule in MAX or degree audit. If you have any questions about the classes you are registered for, please contact your advisor, copying online programs.

Please note: Fall classes start on Monday, August 26 with the drop/add period ending Tuesday, September 3. Fall Mod B classes start on Monday, October 21.

Meet the Nursing Coordinator

What is your name and title?

Kelly Kuhns, PhD, RN, CNE Professor and Chair, Wehrheim School of Nursing

How long have you been at MU?

I started at MU in 2000 as a one year full-time temporary instructor, 24 years later I'm still at MU, and have been a nursing faculty member the whole time; I've also been the DNP Program Coordinator and have been the Chair for the past 10 years.

Can you tell us about your family?

I've been married for almost 30 years and have two sons, ages 21 and 18. My 21 year old is a technology education major at MU and is very involved in setting up aquaponics systems on and off campus. My 18 year old is graduating high school this spring and will be attending MU as a chemistry major this fall. We also have a very spoiled goldendoodle named Kasey.

What do you enjoy doing outside of work?

I love to read and typically read about 100 books a year, a mix of fiction and non-fiction. I also enjoy knitting, especially socks, and baking. Currently, I'm teaching my sons to cook and that's lots of fun. Each summer I spend at least a month on Lake Hartwell, South Carolina, my happy place.

How did you get interested in nursing and teaching nursing?

Like many nurses, I went into nursing because a family member, my favorite aunt, was a nurse. I remember helping her study for her exams and knew that's what I wanted to do in my life. During my junior year of college, one of faculty members, who has remained a mentor to me all my career, told me I should consider going into nursing education. Very early in my nursing career, I became a staff educator and continued to enjoy teaching others. Within three years of becoming

a nurse, I back in school, earning my Master degree in nursing education.

My PhD is also focused in nursing education

What do you like about working with the Online Nursing students?

Our nursing online students are unique because they are all registered nurses and typically working in healthcare. I love the real-life conversations we can have about real issues and trends in healthcare. The online environment allows everyone to have an equal voice and opportunity to engage.

Do you have any advice for our online students?

Stay engaged! Log in frequently and engage in conversation with your classmates. Set aside specific time for engaging in the course - don't let things go to the end of the week. And finally, communicate concerns, worries, questions, and kudos with your faculty!

Two Summer Wellness Tips for Adult Learners

De-clutter and get things in order.

While you might be taking classes this summer, you could find yourself having a little more time to focus on getting organized.

Make sure your workspace where you study and work on your assignments is not overflowing with papers and folders. Be sure to keep any printed paperwork for specific courses in their own areas. File or get rid of old papers if they are from previous clas-

ses. In terms of electronic files, create a folder for each of your classes and, if it helps, create subfolders with notes, assignments, the syllabus, and any other relevant documents so you can easily access this information when you need it quickly.

Adjust how you balance work, life and family.

As an adult learner, you might have a full plate – your education, your career, and your family.

Whether you're caring for kids or ag-

ing parents, working from home or at an office, or taking one or three online classes, it's important to find the ideal amount of time to devote to each commitment in your life.

Write down how much time per day, week, or month you are devoting to each aspect of your life. Then ask yourself if these times represent a healthy balance. Too much of anything is not usually beneficial to happiness and satisfaction.

EPPIIC: Compassion



Millersville University fosters empathy for and kindness towards, the human experience, leading to purposeful action. Our ethos

of compassion permeates all of our endeavors and interactions. Learning about and being sensitive to the experiences of people and cultures whether nearby or afar, fosters individual, professional and institutional

growth. Compassion moves the campus community towards focusing on each learner and their unique potential to impact the public good.

Student Success Coaching At MU

Success coaching is a service available to ALL students. We believe every student can benefit from having individualized attention to support academic goals. Success coaching can be defined as a personalized, one-on-one partnership of helping students improve their life skills and academic performance. Working with a success coach can help students overcome the different barriers to their success.

MEET WITH A SUCCESS COACH

Success Coaches listen, observe and customize approaches for your individual needs. Your Success Coach will work with you to create and implement effective study habits and cultivate your persistence to program completion and graduation.

Success Coaches listen to and assess student concerns. They develop workshops based on expressed student needs for assistance and clarity. Workshops presented in live group meetings each semester are subsequently posted here for convenience.

For more information on Student Success Coaching visit: <https://www.millersville.edu/success->

WORKSHOPS

What is Starfish?

Starfish is Millersville University's student success platform. It promotes communication between students, course instructors, faculty advisors, and staff in support of student academic achievement.

Featured tools include:

(1) academic progress surveys which provide timely updates on individual student course progress each semester,

(2) attendance surveys to flag any students who have not or have stopped attending class,

(3) early alerts which let students and academic advisors know when a student is staying on track or may need additional academic supports,

(4) student-generated "request help questions" to

get learners proactively connected to needed resources and information, and

(5) appointment and calendar features for students to schedule meetings.



Starfish

What is GRAD 999?

GRAD 999 is a placeholder course used to identify you as a candidate for graduation in your last semester. There is no charge for it. GRAD 999 permits students to receive pertinent information from the Registrar's office regarding graduation and commencement.

In addition, to being registered for GRAD 999, a student must submit an Application for Graduation.

For more information on graduation, including a checklist, please go to: <https://www.millersville.edu/commencement/graduationchecklist>



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We're on the web:
Millersville.edu/onlineprograms

Millersville's Online Programs are designed for adult learners who wish to complete their degree. We offer degree completion programs in the following programs:

- Bachelor's in Business Administration
- Bachelor's in Public Relations
- Bachelor's in Design in Interactive & Graphic Design
- Bachelor's in Early Childhood Education
- Bachelor's in Special Education
- Bachelor's in Emergency Management
- Bachelor's in English with a Writing Studies Concentration
- Bachelor's in Marketing
- Bachelor's in Management
- Bachelor's in Nursing
- Bachelor's in Social Work

Ask A Librarian

The "Ask A Librarian" service is available anytime classes are in session (including the summer session!). Students can connect with a librarian by e-mail, phone, online chat or by making an appointment – all are available via the library's website (library.millersville.edu). Specific hours for the service are posted on the library's website and vary by semester. Summer Ask a Librarian hours are Mon – Thurs, 11am-4pm, and Friday, 11am-2pm. During the summer session, students may also be able to schedule a one-on-one research appointment with a librarian via Zoom outside of normal hours. During the summer session, we encourage all students to connect

with the library via the Ask A Librarian service. During the Fall and Spring semesters students may also contact the librarian for their major or program directly through e-mail, phone or to schedule an individual appointment. In any semester the Librarians are here to help students identify appropriate resources (most of which are available online) and make the best use of library resources and services to help them succeed!

Submitted by Scott Anderson, Associate Professor, Library, Department Chair