



UNIVERSITY OF THE
POTOMAC

"You Can Achieve Your Future"



Chicago Loop Campus



Main Campus, Washington D.C.

January
2021
Edition



Virginia Campus



University News

- Important Dates
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- Career Development Services (CDS)
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Armed Forces Digest

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- Many Veterans Could Receive a Big Bill from the VA
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Academics Corner

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Important Dates

Monday, January 18: Martin Luther King Day, UOTP is closed

Monday, January 18: Career Service Resource Room Launch

Tuesday, January 12 - Tuesday, January 19: Military Student Certifications

Friday, January 29: Request Leave of Absence for 2021-04A/06A

Tuesday, February 2: Academic Affairs Roundtable

Friday, February 12: Valentine's Day

Friday, February 12: Deadline to request schedule change and program change
(changes will be applied to the following term)

Monday, February 15: President's Day, UOTP is closed

Sunday, February 28: 2021-02A Ends

Welcome Students

University of the Potomac Staff
would like to welcome all our new
and continuing students to the new
term.

REMINDER

Course certifications for students using Post 9/11, Voc Rehab, Montgomery GI Bill, and DEA will take place after the Add/Drop period from 1/12/2021 to 1/19/2021



COMING SOON

We are excited to announce the launching of our career services resource page! The resources page will include resume writing tips, internship opportunities, networking and MORE to help prepare for your future career!

January is National BLOOD DONATION Month

Give the gift of life. Donate today.

UNIVERSITY NEWS



UOTP Technology, Business and Healthcare Forum

In the first quarter of 2021, the planned virtual forum presentations are designed to support student access and training required to obtain technical certifications needed in the workforce.

The following discussion topics are scheduled for January thru March:

Students, sharing their journeys to successful employment

Fri, January 29, 2021, 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. EST

Please join my meeting from your computer, tablet, or smartphone.

[JOIN HERE](#)

AWS Academy Program Training

Fri, February 26, 2021 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. EST

Please join my meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone.

[JOIN HERE](#)

uCertify – certification preparation

Fri, March 26th, 2021 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. EST

Please join my meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone.

[JOIN HERE](#)

** Topics may change based on employer priorities **

Point of Contact:

Dr. Kimble

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Career Development Services (CDS)

Career Services is dedicated to preparing our grads for employment opportunities by providing assistance with resumes, developing interview skills, professional tips, networking, workshops and job searching strategies. The mission of Career Services is to provide support to our students by developing their personal potential which leads to employment in their field of study. This is achieved by introducing students to professional development opportunities, with the goal for the student to become the best marketable job candidate. The goal of the Career Services team is to assist students by preparing them for employment opportunities to help achieve their employment goals.

The university will be launching our Career Service Resource Room on January 18. In the resource room students will have access to resources such as:

- Resume writing
- Mock interviews
- Networking
- Applying for jobs
- Professionalism

Do you need assistance? Would you like to sign up for monthly workshops?

[Email careerservices@potomac.edu](mailto:careerservices@potomac.edu)

A-LIST ALUMNI

Jakeline Augusta Barcelos - MBA-HRM

Hailing from Ituiutaba, Brazil Ms. Jakeline Barcelos is known to be a well rounded student and member of the university SGA. She is working toward an internship at ESRI this year. To aid that venture she is part of Toastmasters International. Here is her testimonial.

"My story with Toastmasters started when my advisor asked me to be part of the commencement speeches for my Bachelor's graduation. I said thank you but no. Following that, one of my professors told me about Toastmasters and how it could benefit me with my public speaking fear. I followed her advice and joined a club nearby.

As of today, this is my third year with Toastmasters. It is a great program that provides me with tools to improve my confidence and communication skills. It is also a safe place to practice, make mistakes, and get feedback. It has been particularly helpful to practice my digital presence through this Zoom era.

Toastmasters International offers an educational program geared towards your goals. You can practice by giving prepared and impromptu speeches and participating in meeting roles that help you practice leadership, active listening, and evaluation. I am glad I took my professor's advice.

Most clubs welcome guests anytime. Check it out!"

<https://www.toastmasters.org/>



Martin Luther King Jr. Day January 18

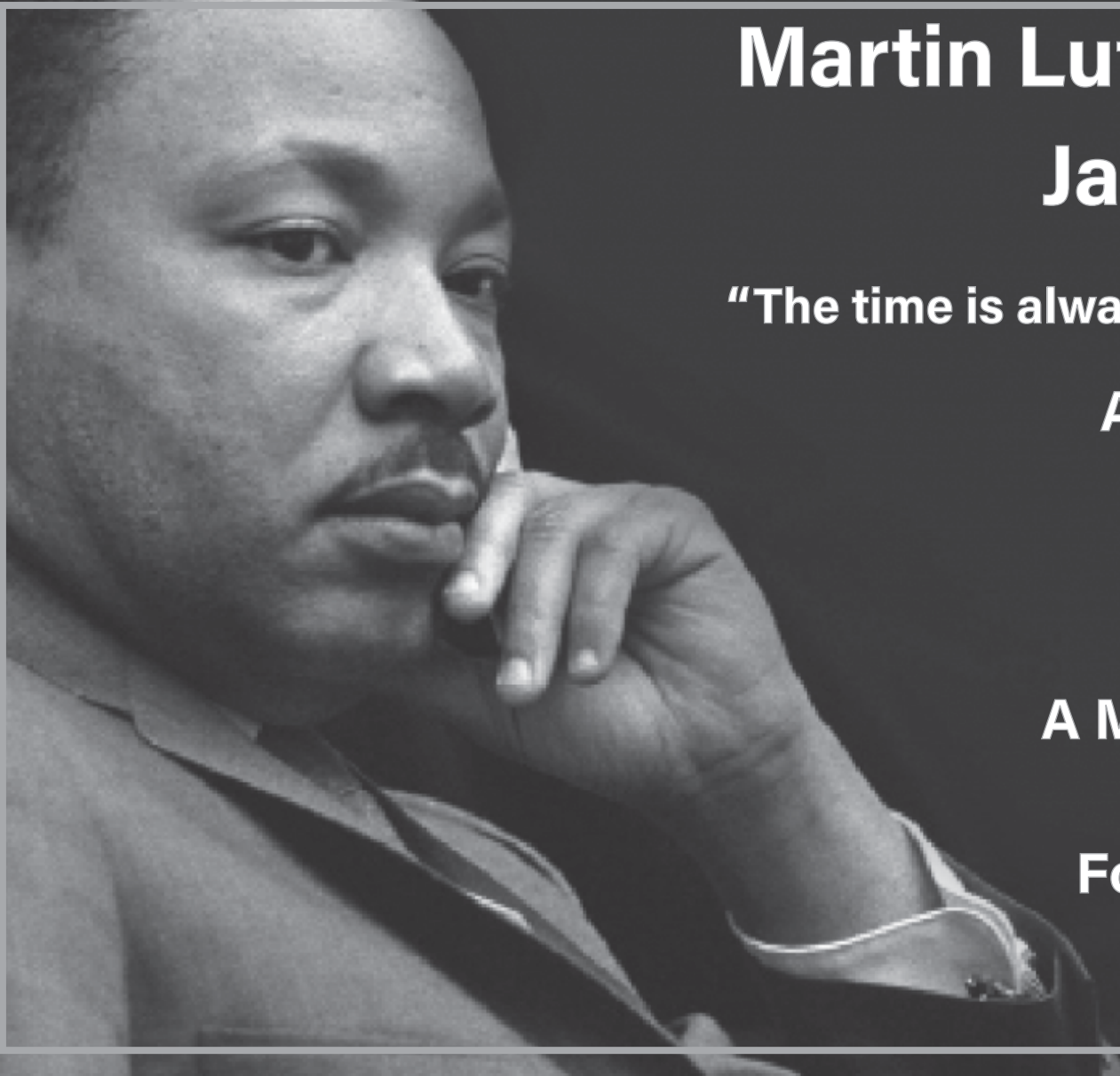
"The time is always right, to do what is right."

An Inspiration.

A Visionary.

A Man Who Fought

For What Is Just.



ARMED FORCES DIGEST

Blood Donation Could Earn Super Bowl Tickets

The American Red Cross and NFL are teaming up for National Blood Donor Month, to urge individuals to give blood and to help tackle the national convalescent plasma shortage. Those who come out and donate are automatically entered to win two tickets to next year's Super Bowl LVI in Los Angeles.



[LEARN MORE](#)

Avoid COVID-19 Vaccine Scams

Have you received calls, texts, and emails about receiving the vaccine? Beware, these may be false contacts from scammers promising vaccines. Learn about how VA will contact you, what personal information VA will NOT ask for, and how to protect yourself from scams.

[LEARN MORE](#)

Army Grooming Standards to Soon Change

Senior Army leaders are discussing making changes to hair and grooming regulations. The changes are set to be announced in January 2021.

[LEARN MORE](#)



Confederate Name Purge from Military Bases

In July of 2020 the US Senate passed a defense appropriations bill that called for renaming U.S. military bases. On January 1, 2021 Congress voted to override the veto placed on the bill by President Donald Trump. The Pentagon now has 3 years to put into action a plan for “putting an end to the longstanding U.S. military tradition of honoring Confederate leaders.”

[LEARN MORE](#)

Repaying Suspended Payroll Taxes in 2021

Changes made through an executive order that suspended the collection of Social Security payroll taxes from September through December, will now be repaid during the next year. The order temporarily delayed the collection of state and federal taxes and spread the repayment of those four months of taxes over the 12 months.

[LEARN MORE](#)



Fitbit Help Support Veteran Health and Wellness During COVID-19 Pandemic

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) has announced a new initiative with Fitbit that provides eligible Veterans, caregivers and VA staff with access to Fitbit programs and services.

[LEARN MORE](#)

Many Veterans Could Receive a Big Bill from the VA

Due to the VA halting all collections in April 2020, many Veterans who typically pay the Department of Veterans Affairs for their medical care might be hit with a big bill this month.

[LEARN MORE](#)





Is Your New Year’s Resolution To Go Back To School?

Written by UOTP April Hackstall
Originally published December 28, 2015 5:52 pm, updated September 28, 2018

You’ve thought that it might be time to change careers. You’ve wondered if going back to school could help you earn a promotion in the new year. You may have even planned on a career training course to prepare for your military-to-civilian transition.

We can help. At University of the Potomac, new career training classes are helping veterans, their family members, military service member’s, career changers and the unemployed find success in competitive new job fields after going back to school.

Learn about opportunities in the new year with The Potomac Workforce Training & Development Center. New Education 2 Employment classes are developed by industry experts to give you the knowledge, skills, and abilities to grow your career, start a new career, or change to your next career.

Opportunities for Veterans

Transitioning servicemembers and veterans can use GI Bill benefits to transition from military service into a competitive civilian job. Flexible, online courses include training for careers in information technology, cyber security, business and healthcare. Search online classes to prepare for the latest, in-demand jobs.



Help for Career Changers

Training Assessment Manager are standing by to answer your questions. These professionals will guide you through every step of the process, from pre-enrollment to course completion.

Scholarships for Military Spouses

With the new Military Spouse Career Advancement Accounts (MyCAA) Initiative, Military Spouses can qualify for up to \$4,000 in scholarships toward their education. Learn more at the our MyCAA portal online. Our proven courses have helped thousands of spouses meet their educational goals to get the careers they deserve.

Get Started Today

At University of the Potomac, we’re serious about helping you keep your New Year’s resolution to go back to school. Ask a training advisor about professional and continuing education classes today at 1-844-235-9108 or trainingadvisor@potomac.edu. Visit the Potomac Workforce Training & Development Center online to learn more at <https://potomac.theknowledgebase.org>.

ACADEMICS CORNER

What Makes a Successful Online Student?

Written by UOTP Marketing

Originally published October 19, 2020 5:28 am, updated November 25, 2020

Online learning has been around for quite some time now. Yet, many students might find it difficult to adjust to its format. The reason behind it might be the accustoming to traditional learning practices. Well, all of us can succeed in online learning if we do what typical successful online students do.

Do you want to know what those students do to achieve their educational goals?

No worries, we'll be sharing their characteristics down below. Read on to learn more.



Being Independent Learners

When we think of an online learner, our mental image we get in our heads is a student learning from the comfort of their own home in front of their computer. While this may be one of the benefits of being an online student, studying at your own pace, not all people find it easy to adjust to this way of learning. Especially those that are used to learning in the school environment with the teacher helping at every step of the way. In fact, this is one of the factors that makes or breaks an online learner's success.

If you (an online learner) want to get the most out of online learning, you should learn to adjust to the new learning environment that places the responsibility for the learning process on the individual themselves. While in the classroom, one had the chance to interact with other fellow students and the teacher, the communication in the online classroom isn't that immediate. While the instructors' clarifications won't be missed, students will have to learn to wait for answers to their emails for a few hours and even a day.



Having Effective Time Management Skills

Time management skills are a must-have in every life aspect. However, in online learning environments, their importance increases even more. As an online student, you will have to organize your time in a way that makes it possible for you to meet deadlines.

There are online classes with a set time, where you'll be required to sign regularly, interact in group discussions, and join the lectures. Nevertheless, there are also classes where there isn't a set time, where everything happens at the time you set for learning. While many might see it as a benefit, it could quickly turn into a drawback if you're a chronic procrastinator. Keeping a routine where every activity planned for a particular day is finished on that day and not postponed can prove fruitful in your online learning success.

Being Self-Motivated and Self- Disciplined

We already discussed the flexibility aspect of online education. One thing you should keep in mind is that this flexibility comes with responsibility. If you aren't a disciplined learner, things can get messy, and way before you realize, things may take a turn for the worse. Only by keeping yourself motivated to continue reading and finish assignments on time can you really become a successful online learner.

Following Netiquette Rules

One collective memory as children is our parents teaching us how to behave in social situations. We applied their lessons for years on end IRL (in real life). However, now that most of our lives have moved online, there is also a set of rules that one should follow online. Those rules are called netiquette rules.

A successful online student always respects the online classroom environment and talks respectfully to their instructor and peers. They know that getting their frustration out at their classmates isn't necessary and also not polite.

Being Goal-Oriented

One of the characteristics of successful online learners is that they have a vision. They know that online education is a stepping stone to their successful career. That's how they keep their head in the game and overcome difficulties that may arise along the way. Knowing how important it's to follow the lectures, be part of the discussions, and deliver assignments on time, will keep them glued to their study schedule and online learning experience in general.

Having Basic Computer Skills

The computer is a significant part of the online learning process. Without it, the learning couldn't take place. That's why it's important to be proficient in some of the most basic actions you can take with a computer, such as sending and receiving emails, using Word, and knowing how to navigate the program where your online classes take place. You don't want to spend too much time on things that could have been learned before instead of focusing 100% on the lessons.

Being Good Communicators

Communication skills are an essential part of the online learning experience. Everybody is counting on each other to be as open as they can. Not only with the instructor but also with the colleagues. You'll have the chance to work with many of them on projects and assignments. If you don't have these skills then, maybe there will be misunderstandings and as a result, you can lose points from a grade that could have been good.



Choosing a Suitable Study Environment

Choosing the right space within your house where you're going to spend quite a lot of time to study can be quite important for the overall success of your online learning experience. That corner should be a quiet space where not too many people hang out, and no one can disturb you. Sometimes, just a little noise can stop you from finishing your thought, and it will take time for you to go back to where you were.

Being Comfortable in Cyberspace

Online classes might not provide auditory elements or visual images of students. However, there is another way for you to present yourself to other students, such as joining class discussions and participating in group activities. It would be best if you get comfortable with people's idea of creating an image of you solely on how you present yourself there.

Speaking Up When Problems Arise

Online learning might have countless benefits, but it's impossible not to have at least one drawback. That drawback is the inability of the instructor to understand whether anything is going wrong through non-verbal communication (confusion, frustration, boredom, etc.) This type of communication isn't possible to happen in an online classroom. That's why you're encouraged to use your voice and speak up if you're having any troubles or difficulties; otherwise, the instructor will never know.

Compared to traditional learning, online learning can be a bit challenging for students, as the learning process is mostly dependent on them. That's why many students might worry that they won't ace their online learning experience. Our list includes 11 characteristics of successful online learners. If you want to know more, you can always turn to your college advisor. If you see yourself becoming one, then maybe you could adopt some of them. The more of these characteristics you assume, the more successful a student you'll become.