



Winter 2007-08 Newsletter

School for New Learning

SNL Online

Important Dates for Winter Quarter

- Register early for Winter 2008! Due to the university holiday closing, please register for winter courses by December 14th.
- Winter quarter officially begins on Thursday January 3, 2008
- The last day to drop a class with 100% refund is Wednesday January 16, 2008
- The last day to request the Pass/Fail option is Wednesday January 16, 2008
- The last day to withdraw from a Winter 2007-08 class is Thursday January 17, 2008
- Winter quarter classes end on Wednesday March 19, 2008
- For an extended list of deadlines please visit <http://oaa.depaul.edu/what/calendar.jsp>.
- Visit <http://www.snlonline.net/Current/registration.asp> for more information about online courses being offered in the Winter 2007-08 quarter.

Wimba Pilot

SNL Online courses will continue pilot-testing a new technology that will allow students to attend "live" meetings via web conference with instructors and classmates. This tool, called "Wimba," will allow all the students in your class to see your instructor's computer and to speak with one another. You will be able to communicate in several ways: through a synchronous "chat" (typing) to others in the class; through a shared Whiteboard that you all can write on; or through talking together. Instructors will record the class meetings so that you can play them at a later time if you can't attend the live session, or for later review.

Meet an SNL Online Student

Audrey Lopez-Butler from Atlanta, Georgia

Audrey is currently a Paralegal at the Royal Bank of Scotland. She has been in the SNL Online program for three years and hopes to graduate next year.

Why did you decide to return to school at this point in your life?

I decided to return to school to pursue a job in the legal field. Although I had excellent references, a four year degree is a basic requirement for a position. I also have two small kids



and do not want to be an excuse for my kids not to accomplish anything *“If Mommy can do it, so can you!”*

What is your intended Focus Area? Why did you choose it?

I decided to keep my focus area general so my intended focus is Humanities.

What has been your favorite SNL online course thus far?

My favorite course in the program was Infectious Disease: A Global Challenge with Dr. Zambrano. I found this course to be enjoyable and interesting along with interesting reading material.

How do you intend to utilize your DePaul degree after you graduate?

After graduation, I would like to continue my education. I would like to become certified to teach elementary education through alternative certification. I have also thought of the possibility of attending Law School.

What advice would you give to a student who is new to the program?

I would say: *“Don’t freak out...stick it out through Foundations”*. My advice is to take time to understand the competencies, ask questions to your faculty mentor and other students as I have found that everyone is friendly and willing to help. I also recommend to work one week ahead in class, just as I have done.

Meet SNL Online Faculty & Staff

Meet Kate Oleniczak, she is a member of our staff and also teaches SNL online courses.

What is your current job title, and what are your primary responsibilities at SNL? How does your work affect students?

Assistant Director of the SNL Online program. My main responsibilities include the budget, course scheduling, and marketing for SNL Online. I also manage the snlonline@depaul.edu email account on weekends, so students can always receive a reply from SNL staff in a timely manner, even outside of regular business hours.

How long have you been at DePaul? At SNL?

I have been at DePaul and SNL for five years as of December.

What do you like most about working at DePaul, and at SNL?

I very much enjoy working in non-profit higher education. Not only do I like my day-to-day job responsibilities, but I also experience a great deal of satisfaction knowing that I am helping students fulfill the dream of earning a college degree.

What advice would you give to a student who is new to the program? For a staff person who is new to the program?

My advice to new students would be to reach out to faculty and staff as much as possible, especially at the beginning of your program when things are unfamiliar - We are all here to help! I would advise a new staff member that they will find a great deal of fulfillment in their job at DePaul as long as they remember that we are all here to serve students and help them succeed.



Refer a Friend to SNL

Did you know that most students come to the School for New Learning by “word of mouth?”

Many students, faculty and staff want to share the good news about SNL with friends. Now it is even easier for you to help them get started toward their degree. Just visit <http://www.snل.depaul.edu/prospective/coupon.asp> to download a \$50 coupon for your friend(s) to use towards their Learning Assessment Seminar tuition. For every student you refer who completes the LAS, you will be entered into a drawing for a \$100 gift certificate from DePaul's Bookstore!

Summit Seminar & Graduation

A total of 100 students took the online Summit Seminar in the 2006-07 school year.

You can graduate from SNL during any of the four quarters: Fall (Nov.), Winter (Mar.), Spring (June), and Summer (Aug.).

Graduation is not automatic. You must complete several steps before your undergraduate degree is awarded. First, you must meet the following criteria just to apply:

- Ten or fewer competencies still to complete.
- F1 completed and posted to your academic record.
- S5 completed and posted to your academic record.
- Research Seminar completed.
- Grade point average of 2.0 or above

If you meet these criteria, login to Campus Connect at <https://campusconnect.depaul.edu>, Select “For Students”, then Apply for Degree Conferral by the deadline for that quarter to officially express your intent to graduate. A one-time non-refundable \$100 credential processing fee is assessed by the University

Submit assessment forms, evidence, and transcripts for all remaining Independent Learning Pursuits and Transfer Courses to your Academic Committee.

Register in the quarter you are graduating for all remaining unearned competencies, including Advanced Project, Externship, and Summit Seminar. There is both an online and on-campus version of Summit Seminar. The online option is open to all students and is three weeks long.

Upcoming online Summit Seminar dates for the 2007-08 year are as follows:

Winter 2007-08 February 25th – March 19th

Spring 2007-08 May 19th – June 7th

Summer 2007-08 July 28th – August 16th

Scholarships

The School for New Learning awards scholarships to adult students each year. If you think you might qualify for one of these scholarships, we encourage you to apply. For a listing of available scholarships, please visit http://snل.depaul.edu/current/scholarship_application.asp.



Campus Connect and Library Services

If you are not yet familiar with DePaul's Campus Connect system, you should login using your assigned username and password and see the various options available to you, including registration, grades, billing, payment options, and more. Several of the DePaul SNL online courses require direct access to the University Library through Campus Connect.

Campus Connect Credentials are mailed in the conditionally admitted letter 10 business days after the application is received and processed. If you have questions on your credentials, or need to reset the information, please contact the Technology Contact Center at 312-362-8765.

Once you receive that information, please put it in a safe place as you will refer to it often. If you have received that information, check out the services available to you by visiting <https://campusconnect.depaul.edu>.

Textbooks

Textbook information can be found at: <http://www.snlonline.net/Current/books.asp>. Books for all SNL online classes are available through the University's online book vendor, MBS Direct. Visit <http://www.mbsdirect.net> to order books.

Please Note: Books for SNL online courses are not available at the onsite DePaul bookstores.

Keeping Your Email Address Current

You will be receiving important information via email at your "Preferred" email address listed on Campus Connect. If your email address has recently changed, you must update your email address under the "Home" and "Preferred" fields on Campus Connect. Log into Campus Connect at <https://campusconnect.depaul.edu>, go to 'Demographic Portfolio' and update your email address. Please note, AOL, MSN, Yahoo and Hotmail are not recommended as they may prevent you from receiving emails from your instructor. If you use one of these email clients, we recommend that you lower the spam filter as much as possible. The best email to use with Blackboard courses is your students.depaul.edu email which is provided free of charge to all DePaul students. You can find more information about your student email account at <http://is.depaul.edu/communication/email/student.asp>.

SNL Online Student Handbook

The SNL Online Student Handbook contains important information regarding tuition, financial aid, registration, Blackboard, student services, and more and can be downloaded and printed at: <http://www.snlonline.net/SNLDistanceEducationHandbook.pdf>.