Academic assistance is available to all students.

INSIDE

- It can be very relaxing studying in the summer
- GoalQuest newest tool to help freshmen
Her summer students earn higher grades than their fall and spring trimester counterparts, leading her to wonder why more students don’t take classes when the calendar reads May, June, July or August.

“The quality of work by my students is higher in the summer,” said Kenkel, assistant professor of management in the Department of Marketing and Management. “The students don’t forget the material. Instead of having something due in a week, it’s due the next day. There’s less time to forget things.”

Kenkel has taught the four-week managerial communication class in May and human resource management, an online eight-week class, during May and June. This summer will be her ninth consecutive in the classroom.

“Our department encourages students to take summer classes if they can’t get into a fall or spring class, if they want a particular instructor or just to get caught up,” Kenkel said. “But I also recommend to my students that they take at least a month off to get away from school.”

Kenkel, a Maryville native, holds two degrees from Northwest. She earned a master’s of business administration degree in 1991 and a bachelor’s degree in 1986. She said technology has played a huge role with today’s college students.

“One method that has been so successful in our department is online classes,” she said. “We have 12 Web-based courses this summer, and nearly all of them fill.”

And Kenkel said enrollment in the online courses isn’t necessarily comprised of students who go home for the summer and want to take a class. Rather, many students who stay in Maryville during the summer often enroll in online classes.

“Some students stay in town to work and would rather take an online class than sit in class every day,” she said.

Some students, Kenkel said, prefer staying in Maryville during the summer.

“There is something about staying in Maryville during the summer,” she said. “Students get out of their normal cliques. They’re playing in a softball league, going to the pool and working with community members. They’re making a whole new set of friends. It’s really a new atmosphere.”

From a personal standpoint, Kenkel enjoys teaching during the May session because her own children are still in school. And Kenkel likes the flexibility of Northwest’s summer offerings. Since she’s not a morning person, her 10:10 a.m. Monday through Thursday managerial communication class is offered at the perfect time.

Kenkel said she doesn’t structure her summer classes any different from the fall and spring. The online class has a limit of 25, while the face-to-face class has 20 seats.

“We do some presentations in class, and because the classes tend to be smaller, I can give more individual help,” Kenkel said. “The material just comes at the students faster.”

A variety of business majors take Kenkel’s classes, including a cross-section of business management, marketing, economics and finance majors.

Kenkel encourages students to look ahead at their academic calendars, determine when they plan to graduate, then decide which summer classes would be beneficial.

“Summer tends to be a grade-point average booster and it can get students headed toward their graduation goal,” Kenkel said.
Involved student makes time for summer school studies

Nisha Bharti is a Student Ambassador, junior class president, volunteer coordinator for the Student Dietetic Association, president of the Panhellenic Council, member of Sigma Sigma Sigma sorority, Family and Consumer Science ambassador for foods and nutrition, member of Blue Key and the Order of Omega. She's also a leader during Summer Orientation Advisement and Registration, the summer program for new students.

With that level of involvement, one would think the 21-year-old Lexington, Mo., native would cherish summers off. Not a chance.

Bharti, a dietetics major with a minor in business, has a different attitude toward summer school. She loves it.

"Going in I thought it would be hard, starting at 7:30 and spending a long time in classes," she said. "I was kind of nervous about it. I didn't know if it was going to be too much homework. But my instructors knew we had other classes. They were very understanding."

Last summer, Bharti took principles of management and managerial communications during the May session. She enjoyed the group work that is common with summer classes.

"A lot of the students got together and helped each other on homework that was due the next day," she said. "There's a lot more group work during the summer. I completely loved it."

One assignment in managerial communications was writing a resume. Bharti said her instructor paired students to collaborate on the project.

"I had advice from a student, who looks at things differently than I did," Bharti said.

Instructors also posted class notes online on eCompanion, saving students time in class and fostering more interaction with the instructor.

Bharti said taking just two classes (six credit hours) last May allowed her to take a lighter load (12 hours) during fall and spring trimesters, a wise move considering her campus involvement.

"Summer school is very positive," Bharti said. "I wish I would have taken summer classes between my freshman and sophomore years. This summer I plan to take 12 credits. I want to be here all summer."

Taking advantage of summer school will allow Bharti to graduate in either May or December 2008, depending if she pursues a major in marketing.

On top of summer credits she has earned, Bharti entered Northwest with 21 dual college credits, further proving she likes to stay busy.

"I don't think summer school is that big of a burden," she said. "Some people say they're burned out and need a break. It doesn't bother me. If you're done by 1 (p.m.), you still have plenty of time to do whatever. I still thought I had a summer last year."

Bharti is so organized, she plans to complete a six-month internship in North Carolina following graduation from Northwest.

"My sister, Tilusha Bharti, works out there for Ross's Products, and I job-shadowed her for two weeks," Bharti said.

Her goal is to become a pharmaceutical sales representative.

Right now, Bharti is concentrating on completing the spring trimester and rolling up her sleeves for work as a SOAR leader in May and June.

"I highly suggest students take summer school, even if they're scared of it being too much work," she said. "Try to take one class in May. If you like it, take more the rest of the summer or next summer. You won't hurt anything if you try it. It's a good experience."
A sorority sister’s suggestion that Tiffany Logue take summer classes seemed innocent enough.

After all, what did Logue, a double major in broadcasting and public relations, have to lose?

“Summer classes are great,” said Logue, a junior who also is a Summer Orientation Advisement and Registration leader. “If I take a May class, by the time I get home, my friends are finishing their spring semester and I’ve got three or six more credit hours done. Summer can catch you up and put you where you need to be. A lot of people stay up here in May anyway.”

Logue, recruitment director for Sigma Sigma Sigma sorority and a member of the Panhellenic Council, earned six credit hours during the May summer session following her freshman year. After sitting out last summer, she plans to go all out this summer.

“I’m planning to take 12 credit hours this summer, one class every session,” Logue said. “Since adding public relations, I need to catch up. It’s an easy way to get your grade-point average up because you can devote your full focus to those classes.”

Besides the advantage of taking classes before the bulk of the summer, Logue said summer school allows students to take lighter loads during the fall and spring trimesters.

“It’s easier to focus on just one or two classes,” she said. “If you have a really hard class, take it in the summer and concentrate on that one class. The professors are still in contact with you, and that’s a big advantage.”

Logue also cited Northwest’s wide variety of summer classes as another advantage to taking summer school.

“For those students who are burned out, take online classes,” Logue said. “You do have to be self-disciplined, but online classes are just as good.”

Logue, a Topeka, Kan., native, had her mind set on attending the University of Kansas. That is until a Northwest recruiter visiting Logue’s Seaman High School placed a brochure in her hands.

“My mind was made up; I was going to KU,” Logue said. “But this brochure had good pictures of Northwest, it had my major and a great broadcasting department. I came for a visit and the tour guide was great. Northwest is the perfect size. I love it here.”

The SOAR leader Logue had as a freshman inspired her to become one.

“Northwest has been such a great experience,” said Logue, who plans to graduate in spring 2008. “And Maryville’s a great time. It’s so laid-back and comfortable. If students would just give it a try, they would love it.”
Chris Lee, a junior journalism major from Imperial, Neb., is planning his first summer school experience this year. He regrets not going sooner.

“I was going to take summer school last year but never got motivated enough to go for it, and now I wish I would have,” said Lee, chief photographer for The Tower yearbook. “It's a great opportunity to catch up and take six to nine hours, which is what I plan to do this summer.”

Lee, who also is a SOAR leader and a member of Phi Delta Theta fraternity, said he thought he needed a break last year when just about every other SOAR leader took summer classes. Talking to friends, Lee now realizes the many advantages to summer school.

“I need to get caught back up since I've been taking minimum loads with my yearbook responsibilities,” Lee said. “I also want to get ahead since I'll be busier next year.”

Lee said he's looking at becoming editor-in-chief of the yearbook as a senior.

He also wants to graduate in four years, “even though I love it here and don’t want to leave. It will either be next spring or December 2008. It’s no big deal if I have to stay a trimester longer.”

After graduating high school, Lee looked at journalism schools in California until a friend from Imperial told him to check out Northwest.

“My mom and dad drove me down and we visited here and Missouri Western,” Lee said. “I fell in love with Northwest.”

Lee said his career goal is to work as a photographer for a magazine.

“I love photography,” he said, “and someday I'd like to own my own photo studio.”

Right now, Lee is concentrating on his responsibilities with the yearbook and gearing up for SOAR.

“SOAR is the best job ever,” Lee said. “You get to meet a zillion new people, have fun and showcase Northwest to freshmen. And it’s been great working as a team with other SOAR leaders. We've become best friends.”

Logue's career goal is to become a television producer, particularly reality TV. For now, she’s concentrating on completing her spring trimester and gearing up for summer.

“I hope people realize the advantages we have in taking summer classes,” she said. “You can take classes every month, and some are offered over two months when it’s less intense. Summer is a great time.”

“I was going to take summer school last year but never got motivated enough to go for it, and now I wish I would have,” said Lee, chief photographer for The Tower yearbook. “It's a great opportunity to catch up and take six to nine hours, which is what I plan to do this summer.”
Northwest Family talks with Beverly Schenkel, Northwest’s dean of enrollment management

Beverly Schenkel received her master of business administration degree from Northwest in 1992 after earning a bachelor’s degree in marketing in 1990, the same year she began working at the University as an admissions counselor. During the 1990s, Schenkel served as associate director of admissions for recruitment and associate director of admissions for operations. In 2001, she became dean of enrollment management. A tool to assist new students at Northwest called GoalQuest will be launched this coming year. Schenkel recently was interviewed by Northwest Family.

NF: What is GoalQuest?
Schenkel: “GoalQuest is a Web-based tool that we’re implementing to help improve student retention and freshman success rates. We’re implementing a pilot project this spring with our Freshman Seminar program. In the fall, we anticipate full implementation with the freshman class. The tool has been named Bearcat Beat.”

NF: How does GoalQuest work?
Schenkel: “It’s a Web-based tool students will have a log-in access to. The content contained in the tool is linked to the Freshman Seminar course, so the course requirements will require the student to utilize Bearcat Beat as part of the classroom assignments. The delivery of course content will be through articles and surveys. Additional features that the University will utilize include live alerts, a UPeers feature, a UScene feature and a UBlog feature. The tool has a variety of outlets where we can provide information for students. Some of it is related to more of the social transition to college. Some of the topics included or discussed in the articles include time management, money matters, health and safety, careers and how academic advising works. It’s not unique to a major, but rather it’s more unique to being a college student and how to navigate the environment at Northwest.”

NF: How will GoalQuest fit into Northwest’s objective to help students transition to college and be successful in college?
Schenkel: “Bearcat Beat compliments the Freshman Seminar program, as well as our Early Alert program. It provides information to students in a consistent format. It also allows us to provide information to students when they need it on an individual basis, as opposed to a mass schedule pre-determined of when you need the information. It allows us as an institution to understand where each individual student is in their college transition. If money is a concern to the student, then we can alert financial assistance to that matter. If a student is homesick, then we can get the student connected to the counseling center. The goal of the program is a more personalized approach.”

NF: What positive results do you hope to see as a result of implementing GoalQuest?
Schenkel: “One is the consistent delivery of content. We’ve asked faculty to discuss these various topics in Freshman Seminar. They will continue to do that, but it will be supplemented by Web articles, so there is consistent delivery and benefit to that. Improved retention and freshman success rates will be the measure of our results. Ultimately, our students will have an easier transition from high school to college and feel comfortable with their new environment in Maryville. The GoalQuest tool allows them to begin building an online community, which is the UPeers feature. The UScene feature then shares information about Maryville attractions such as restaurants, recreation options, and retail stores. They can go online to learn more about different establishments. UBlog allows us to have a few student leaders provide blogs online so students can read about other students’ experiences. Live Alerts allow us to push segmented information that is time sensitive to students on campus.”
Anonymous donors give Northwest $1.5 million

A Nodaway County couple recently made a $1.5 million planned gift to the Northwest Foundation Inc. benefitting the University and its students.

The donors, who wish to remain anonymous, indicated their bequest will be divided evenly between the Foundation’s Venture Fund, an unrestricted fund used where the University’s needs are the greatest, and Northwest’s American Dream Grant.

The American Dream Grant, one of the few grants of its kind in the nation, is a groundbreaking needs-based financial aid initiative that is making dreams come true for undergraduates who might otherwise find a college education beyond their reach.

Students qualifying for the American Dream Grant come from families with incomes of $30,000 or less and meet Northwest’s moderately selective admissions criteria. Unlike other needs-based programs, the grant pays virtually all college expenses during a student’s first two years at the University, including tuition, room, board, books and the use of a laptop computer. Any remaining costs can be covered by the student working a few hours each week on campus.

“The addition of $750,000 directly to the American Dream Grant will impact many deserving students who may not have even considered a college education strictly because of their lack of financial resources,” said Orrie Covert, Northwest’s vice president for university advancement and executive director of the Northwest Foundation. “Without a doubt, this couple’s generosity will be felt by many generations, and we are very thankful for their commitment to Northwest and its students.”

Students volunteering to work in Miami, Fla.

T he Volunteer Office, under the guidance of Amy Nally, coordinator of volunteer programs and service learning, will be taking 27 participants to Miami, Fla., to partner with Habitat for Humanity Collegiate Challenge 2007.

The group will be in Miami from March 17-24 building homes for those in need in the Miami area.

Student-led charity drive breaks $42,000 mark

A student-led charity effort organized to benefit St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital in Memphis, Tenn., continues to bring in thousands of dollars for the health-care institution, which treats children suffering from catastrophic illnesses regardless of their families’ ability to pay.

Angel McAdams Prescott, Northwest’s coordinator of Greek life and leadership development, announced in early January that Up ‘til Dawn had raised $42,063, $12,000 more than the predicted donation total.

Up ‘til Dawn is part of a program involving about 200 colleges and universities nationwide. Students at participating schools organize events to raise money during the academic year, then celebrate the campaign with an all-night party, which, at Northwest, took place from 7 p.m. to 7 a.m. March 9-10 in Lamkin Activity Center.

Most of the money collected so far by members of the University’s Greek-letter societies and other student groups has come from a letter-writing campaign. Fifty teams of six students each wrote about 9,000 letters to families, friends and acquaintances requesting that they donate money directly to the hospital.

According to Allison Brockmann, a senior event marketing representative for St. Jude based in St. Louis, the amount of money raised by Northwest students during the fall trimester and during the holiday break is “just amazing.”

At least two more Up ‘til Dawn events are scheduled for the spring trimester. For more information, or to arrange a donation, call McAdams Prescott at 660.562.1226 or e-mail angel@nwmissouri.edu.

Bearcat bands performs for huge throngs in London

T he Bearcat Marching Band, along with the Northwest Wind Symphony and Jazz Ensemble, will fly “across the pond” to England late this year for what is believed to be their first ever international appearance.

Assistant Professor and Director of Bands Carl Kling said he has accepted an invitation for all three groups, and possibly a Northwest alumni band, to perform during the 22nd annual London Parade and Gala Concert Series.

The parade, said to be the largest event of its kind in the world, takes place on Jan. 1, 2008. The chimes of Big Ben atop Westminster Palace will signal the start of the procession, which comprises 10,000 participants marching down such famous thoroughfares as Whitehall, Downing Street, Pall Mall, Berkeley Square and Piccadilly Circus.

More than a million spectators are expected to line the parade route and millions more will watch the extravaganza as it is broadcast by approximately 500 television stations and networks worldwide.

The Northwest contingent will travel to England on Dec. 28 and return Jan. 4. Kling said traveling to London will cost about $2,000 per person, and that planning for fundraising efforts to help participants defray the cost is underway.

Northwest alumni, and especially former band members, are encouraged to make the trip, help raise money or both.

For more information, call Kling at 660.562.1794 or e-mail ckling@nwmissouri.edu. Information about the trip is also available through the Department of Music at 660.562.1315.

Winter commencement moving to afternoon

N orthwest seniors and candidates for advanced degrees who graduate at winter commencement will now cross the stage to receive their diplomas during the afternoon rather than the evening.

By consensus of the President’s Cabinet and the Dean’s Council, the annual December event will move permanently to 1 p.m. rather than starting at the traditional 7 p.m.

Mary Ann Lowary, vice president for university relations, said the change was made, in part, to ensure that there is enough time for Bearcat fans to travel to any Division II post-season football games.

Due to Northwest’s trimester system, the annual D-2 championship game often occurs either on graduation day or the day after. Changing the commencement date is problematic because the ceremony is tied to the academic calendar.
Upcoming Events

March

10-16 Family and Consumer Sciences Week
12 Preregistration for Summer and Fall 2007 begins
12 Distinguished Lecture: Norah Vincent “Self-Made Man,” 8 p.m., PAC
13 Last date to withdraw from the University
14 Faculty Recital: Dr. Anthony Olson, piano, 8 p.m., CJT
15 Mathematics Olympiad
15 Northwest Dance Company spring show, 7:30 p.m., PAC
16 Regional History Day, Student Union
16 Spring break begins, 5 p.m.
16 Newman Center Habitat Alternative Spring Break begins
16 Residence halls close, 6 p.m.
19-23 Spring break
24 ACT Prep Shop
25 Residence halls open at 1 p.m.
26 Classes resume, 8 a.m.
26-31 Northwest Week
27 North District Business Contest
28-30 District Music contest, all day
29-30 Theatre “The Yellow Boat,” 7:30 p.m., PAC
30 Aristotle Georgides sculpture exhibit closes
31 Admissions Green and White Visit Day
31 Student Senate Bearcat Street Sweep, 10 a.m.

April

1 April Fool’s Day
1 Bach Piano Day Festival, all day, CJT
2 Laura Kukkee Ceramics Exhibit opens, lecture and reception, 7 p.m., 244 Fine Arts Building
3 Northwest Orchestra concert, 8 p.m., CJT
5 Agriculture Career Development Event contest
5 SAC lecture: Anthony Rapp Theatre: “Removing the Glove,” 7:30 p.m., PAC 7
7-13 Student Senate elections
8 Easter
9-15 Greek Week
10 Career Services Education Expo
10 Symphonic Band concert, 8 p.m., CJT
11-12 Student Senate blood drive
12 Northwest Jazz Ensemble concert, 8 p.m., CJT

Northwest

For more information about Northwest, visit www.nwmissouri.edu or call 660.562.1212
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Northwest
MISSOURI STATE UNIVERSITY

Take advantage of Northwest's Summer School in 2007 and:

- Enroll in classes guaranteed to be held
- Pick up valuable credits toward your degree
- Lighten your academic load during future fall and spring trimesters
- Take classes taught by full-time professors
- Take smaller classes for more individual attention
- Apply scholarships to summer classes
- Live on campus
- Hold a job on campus
- Enroll in May and June sessions and still have half the summer for family time
- Stay home and take online classes
- Speed up your journey toward graduation

Your summer begins May 8!

CJT – Charles Johnson Theater
PAC – Mary Linn Auditorium, Performing Arts Center