



Transfer Center News

Fall 2009

Important Dates

- Last day to drop with no tuition penalty **9/15**
- Last day to add classes **9/15**
- Last day to drop **10/2**
- Selective Withdrawal Period (undergraduate students only) **10/15–10/30**
- Columbus Day recess (Monday classes/labs meet Tuesday. Tuesday classes do not meet this week) **10/12**
- Thanksgiving recess **11/ 25-29**
- Last day of classes **12/12**
- No Reading Days scheduled
- Exam Period (beginning at 7:30 a.m. on Monday, 12/14) **12/14–21**



What Does That Mean?

Mason, like any school, has it's own lingo. Let's decode some of it for you!

- **SUB**– referring to the Student Union Buildings either SUB I or SUB II
- **JC**– the Johnson Center. Is one of the main buildings on the Fairfax campus.
- **STAR**– This is the Student Technology Assistance and Resource Center located in 229 JC
- **DoIT**– This is the Division of Instructional Technology
- **ODS**– The Office of Disability Services
- **ODPS**– Office of Diversity Programs & Services
- **OIPS**– Office of International Programs and Services
- Parking lots A,C, I, J, K, L,M,O, P are for all students, R is for resident students only!
- **RAC**—Recreation and Athletic Complex (formerly the PE Building).

Welcome to George Mason University!

Congratulations on your choice to attend Mason! You are entering the university at an exciting time. You are now a member of a university named as the #1 school to watch by the U.S. News & World Report. Mason has established an international reputation as an innovative and entrepreneurial university that offers many excellent and unique opportunities both inside and outside the classroom. We encourage you to take advantage of all that Mason has to offer to enhance your education and achieve success. Make use of the campus resources and services as well as get involved in the activities and organizations!

As a transfer student, you may have lots of questions and need ready access to information and resources that can answer your questions.

The *Transfer Center News* provides you with some helpful tips on how to locate these resources, answer some of your questions, and help you navigate Mason.

George Mason is one of the most diverse universities in the country with continuing activities catered to meet each individual student's needs. Whether it be academic or extracurricular, we hope you check out the links we have provided to find out more about student activities, events, groups and organizations. This includes anything from career counseling, academic advising, math and writing tutoring to free movies, socials, or religious and cultural organizations.

We hope you take advantage of all these opportunities and really become a part of the Mason community.

The Transfer Center is designed to assist students before, during, and after their transfer into GMU. Please, feel free to visit us in person or call with any questions!

We are located on the Prince William Campus, Occoquan Building, Room 202.

Give us a call (703) 993-9152.

Fran Herrity and Ann Lewis
Transfer Center Co-Directors



Maximizing Your Transfer Credit

As a first semester transfer student remember to check your Mason transfer credit evaluation to confirm how your courses have been approved to meet degree requirements or counted as general electives. Have all of your credits from previous institutions transferred as you expected? Are there courses you thought might meet major requirements designated as general elective? This is the time you should address your questions and deal with these issues!

Make sure you verify that all final transcripts have been received by

the Office of Admissions and any degree postings, such as an AS, AA, or AA&S from any Virginia Community College, have been recorded. If you have questions about your transfer credits, now is the time to visit your academic advisor. When Spring 2010 pre-registration arrives, you'll want to know exactly what courses to register for in order to complete your degree. Information and forms on how to take care of your transfer credit inquiries or reevaluations can be found at: <http://admissions.gmu.edu/transfer/TransferCreditEvaluation.asp>.

Remember to include as much information as possible when submitting any course descriptions or syllabi for reevaluation to the department in which you want to receive credit.

As daunting as these tasks may seem, it is important to deal with during your first semester at Mason. Your advisor can help! Another important tip is to make sure you have checked your degree evaluation on: <https://patriotweb.gmu.edu/> for information on your course requirements for graduation.

Helpful University Resources

The Writing Center

<http://writingcenter.gmu.edu>

This is a FREE service provided to all students. Trained graduate and undergraduate tutors from a variety of majors are eager to assist you at any stage of your writing process. They are there to help from any type of assignment whether it be a long research paper or a short note. They will not proofread your work, but they will work with you to develop revision and editing strategies that can last a lifetime! Schedule an appointment online.



Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS)

<http://caps.gmu.edu>

Provides a wide range of services by a staff of clinical psychologists and professional counselors. The Center provides individual counseling, group counseling, workshops and outreach programs—experiences to enhance student's academic performance.

Learning Services provides a variety of experience based learning opportunities through which students explore a wide range of academic concerns. Study skills workshops and individual study skills counseling provide learning experiences to improve academic skills. The Certificate in Academic Skills Program provides a structured yet individualized program of study to develop academic skills.

Math Tutoring Center

<http://math.gmu.edu/tutorcenter.htm>

Free Tutoring available for all Mason students enrolled in math courses up to MATH 290. This is available on a walk-in basis Monday thru Thursday 9:30am-9:30pm and Fridays 9:30am-3:00pm

Office of Disability Services

<http://www2.gmu.edu/dpt/unilife/ods/>

The Office of Disability Services is available to serve all students with disabilities, including those with cognitive (e.g., learning, psychological, and closed head injury), sensory, mobility, and other physical impairments. They are committed to working individually with students to help them choose the most effective accommodations of services.

Always Something Happening at Mason

Center for the Arts:

Located on the Fairfax Campus, this building includes a 2,000-seat Concert Hall, two experimental theatres, three dance studios, and music and fine art studios. All full time Mason students are eligible for free tickets. Two free tickets can be picked up, for most performances, at the Center for the Arts Ticket Center on the Tuesday before the performance begins. You can visit <http://www.gmu.edu/cfa/students/> for a full list of upcoming shows and performances.

The Patriot Center:

This is a 10,000 seat sports and entertainment arena designed for basketball, concerts, and other sports and entertainment events. Students, staff, and faculty members are eligible for some special discounts and can select from seat locations set aside for the university community.

For a full list of Patriot Center events please visit <http://www.patriotcenter.com>

Student Activities:

<http://sa.gmu.edu>

Need to know what's happening on campus? Mason hosts many different activities for all kinds of interests. With over 200 different clubs and organizations to choose from, we hope you find one that interests you. Check out the Student Activities calendar at: <http://sa.gmu.edu/calendar.php> or <http://masonnation.gmu.edu> to learn more about all of the activities on campus.

Mason Sports:

Want to go to a game and support our athletic teams? Interested in intramural or club sports? You can join everything from bowling to ultimate Frisbee! Get a complete list of the Patriot Sport Schedule on: <http://go.mason.cstv.com>.

Aquatic and Fitness Center:

Did you know that student membership at the Aquatic and Fitness Center (AFC) was free? Located on the Fairfax campus, AFC offers many aquatic and fitness programs and classes. You can also work one-on-one with a personal trainer. Current George Mason students receive a 10% discount on all massage therapy packages! For more information or to schedule an appointment call 703 993-3939 or visit <http://aquatics.gmu.edu>





Go Global and Study Abroad

All students interested in studying abroad are encouraged to attend a CGE Study Abroad Information Session. Sessions meet in the Johnson Center, room 234.

9/08/09 11-12, 9/10/09 3-4, 9/14/09 3-4, 9/16/09 6-7, 9/22/09 11-12, 9/24/09 6-7, 9/28/09 11-12, 9/30/09 3-4, 11/11/09 3-4, 11/17/09 3-4.

The Center for Global Education (CGE) offers many programs during the school year. Programs are offered to students and the general public and available for credit or for audit. Some scholarship assistance is available for Mason students.

You can study abroad for as long as an academic year or as short as one week! You can attend Intensive Language Programs or Study Tours during December and January.

Students can earn up to 15 transfer or resident credits per semester.

Students can now study overseas through one of our special semester abroad programs in the following locations. Eligibility requirements: 2.5 or above cumulative GPA and at least 45 credit hours completed. Semester abroad programs include: Berlin, Germany; Brisbane, Australia; Galway, Ireland; London, England; and Florence, Italy.

<http://gloaled.gmu.edu/>

Now Open Recreation Athletic Complex

Everywhere you look there is construction on campus. There are many construction projects planned as well as many renovations and grand openings scheduled.

On September 2nd, the University's Fairfax Campus opened the new Recreation Athletic Complex, called the RAC.

This 120,000 square foot complex has three gymnasiums, two racquetball courts, two squash courts and a two story fitness gallery which includes cardiovascular and weight training machines. The fitness area offers multipurpose rooms for activities like martial arts, aerobics, yoga and pilates.

The RAC will be home to Intramural Sports, Club Sports and three Intercollegiate Sports teams; tennis, volleyball, and wrestling. It will also have classrooms, offices and a refreshment center.

For more information on reserving court times, equipment check out and membership go to:

<http://recsports.gmu.edu>

University Career Services

Mason's Career Services will hold the Fall Job and Internship Fair on Wednesday/Thursday, October 7-8, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. The fair will be held in the Johnson Center's Dewberry Hall on the Fairfax Campus. Each day the fair is open to students of all majors. More than 100 employers have already registered for the fair. For more information and employer registration, see careers.gmu.edu.

This Fall there are several events, workshops, and programs planned. Students can learn how to develop effective resumes and cover letters.

You can have your resume reviewed by an employer to get feedback and advice on making improvements (first come, first served basis). Even attend a workshop on how to negotiate your salary!

To see all the scheduled events Career Services offers visit <http://careers.gmu.edu/>

Career Services is designed to serve students and employers through our commitment to:

career research and decision-making, internships, co-op, and part-time employment, job search or graduate school preparation, full-time employment of qualified candidates

Newsflash! Mason students... you can practice your interviewing skills online right now with *Perfect Interview!* (Be sure to use Internet Explorer for your browser window) Find out more about what *Perfect Interview* can do for you!



In Order to Register for Spring 2010

- ✓ You must submit your final transcript from previous institutions. A block will be placed on your account, if you have not, and you will not be able to register for Spring 2010 courses.
- ✓ You must submit your immunization records to Student Health Services. They are due before preregistration begins for Spring 2010! You will not be able to register for classes if this is not turned in.



UPDATES:

FAIRFAX CAMPUS

Rappahannock River Parking Deck— now open.

Masonvale—new faculty and staff housing (along Roberts Rd.) expected completion: May, 2010.

Mason Inn Conference Center/ Hotel expected completion: July 2010.

Performing Arts Building—new addition expected completion: July 2010.

Student Union 1—addition expected completion: August, 2011.

PRINCE WILLIAM CAMPUS

Biomedical Research Lab expected completion: February, 2010.

Hylton Performing Arts Center expected completion: April, 2010.

ARLINGTON CAMPUS

Founders Hall expected completion: September, 2010.

We're on the web!

www.gmu.edu/departments/transfer

or feel free to call us at
703.993.9152

Transfer Center Locations and Hours of Service:

Prince William Campus, Occoquan Building, Room 202	Monday thru Friday	9 to 5
703.993.9152.		
Fairfax Campus, SUB1, Room 304	Monday, Wednesday and Friday	9 to 5
703.993.4203.		
Loudoun Campus, Room 215B	Tuesday	9 to 5
703.993.4485.		

Military and Veterans Office

The transition to college can be difficult for any student, but for military students, whether currently serving or veterans, the experience can present unique challenges. Through Mason's Military and Veterans Office located in the Office of Admissions, students can get specialized support services. Providing this support is Mason's military and veterans liaison, Michael Johnson. For more information about the Military and Veterans Office and its services, please contact the Office of Admissions at 703-993-8243 or e-mail Johnson at cjohn2@gmu.edu.



COMING IN OCTOBER, 2009 TO THE PRINCE WILLIAM CAMPUS A NEW OUTDOOR LEARNING CENTER

FREEDOM CENTER CHALLENGE COURSE

In early October 2009, Mason is targeted to open a new challenge course venture at its Prince William Campus in Manassas, Virginia. The intent of the program is to replace and expand upon almost a quarter century of experience of leadership and team-building programming previously conducted at the Hemlock Overlook Center for Experiential Education.

The Center for Professional Development will continue to provide programs developed around the needs of adult learners designed for presentation on or off site.

NEW DINING VENUES:

- Starbucks in Northern Neck
- The Mason Rathskeller and Burrito Del Ray in SUB 1
- Freshens Smoothies in JC and the RAC
- Peets Coffee coming soon to the JC

"Do more than belong: participate. Do more than care: help. Do more than believe: practice. Do more than be fair: be kind. Do more than forgive: forget. Do more than dream: believe." -William James

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