





**Fall 2023**

Dr. Driver  
Dr. Gomaaa,  
Dr. Lesneski  
Prof. Oner (pre-tenure)  
Dr. Randich  
Dr. Seid  
Dr. Varonides

**Spring 2024**

Dr. Andersen  
Dr. Curiel  
Dr. Howey  
Dr. Sebastianelli  
Dr. Whittaker

**Academic Year 2023-2024**

Dr. Caporale  
Brigid Frein  
Dr. Goll  
Dr. Pinches  
Dr. Shapiro

**Intersession/Summer 2023**

Prof. Witek

**Graduate Academic and Student Services Update**

The Graduate Academic and Student Services area held information sessions for potential graduate students who are interested in a position as a graduate assistant in the 2023-2024 academic year. To date, 8 sessions were held via zoom, and approximately 85 total students attended the sessions. Applications are due February 1<sup>st</sup>.

New graduate students are being invited in January 2023 to attend an orientation to allow them to become familiar with the University and the services offered. They will then attend a college level orientation following the general one, and then be invited to the Graduate Student Social at 7:30 the same evening. Additional socials are being planned for graduate students for the spring 2023 semester.

**DEI Updates*****Multicultural Center Expansion***

Construction started on the new Multicultural Center to be located on first floor of the DeNaples Center. The Center's expansion will assist with the increased need for space for underrepresented students to gather and host events. The new Center will feature lounge space, a small study room, a flexible mediated conference/meeting room, and some staff offices. We look forward to its opening later this year.

***Council for Diversity and Inclusion***

The Council for Diversity and Inclusion will be working to assist the University with two DEI Strategic Plan objectives, specifically:

“Develop a statement of shared principles for diversity, equity, and inclusion for all members of our University community. As part of a planned review of University mission and institutional learning outcomes, consider how this commitment may be realized in these foundational statements.”



## ***ROCK***

The Cultural Centers sponsored the 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Royals of Color Kickoff, an early arrival program for new students of color. ROCK provides an opportunity for students to come to campus the Thursday prior to first-year move in to connect with peers, upper-division mentors, and campus and local resources. This provided a foundation to support social network development, community-building, and campus and local-area connections. Twenty new students—up from nine last year—and eighteen upper-division students participated in the program and built lasting connections over the two-day event.

## ***DEI Lunch and Learns***

The Office of Equity and Diversity is now in its fourth year of the DEI Lunch and Learn Series. This year, we will have guest speakers discuss such topics as “Inclusive Education for Individuals with Disabilities,” “Student Mental Health Awareness: Recognition and Response,” “Isms,” “Psychological Safety in Employment,” and “Indigenous History.”

## **Curriculum Approval**

### **New Course**

	<b>Date Posted</b>
ABA 574: Early Intervention for ASD	10/18/22
ABA 575: Positive Behavior Supports	10/18/22
BIOL 296: Tropical Terrestrial Ecology	10/17/22

### **Course Change**

PHIL 323: Natural Law – True Guide of Grave Error?	11/17/22
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### **New Program**

Counseling & Human Services and Applied Behavior Analysis, Accelerated BS/MS*	11/30/22
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### **Program Change**

Psychology Program	11/17/22
Criminal Justice, Sociology, and Criminology	11/17/22

tremendously proud of the Nursing Department Leadership, most notably the Department Chair Teresa Conte. She overcame many challenges, including a shortage of master's prepared faculty to adjunct for us and the passing of our beloved graduate program director and CCNE expert, Dr. Mary Jane Hanson. Our Nursing leadership and faculty continue to work diligently to create the best learning environment for our students.

- PCPS will resume a majority of our international travel courses and international service trips this Intersession and Summer terms after most have been on a hiatus due to the pandemic. Courses are on the master schedule for travel to Uganda (Nursing and Health Administration), Ireland (Nursing), Brazil (Health Administration), the Dominican Republic (Occupational Therapy) and Slovakia (Health Administration). PT has a faculty-led service trip planned to Guatemala.
- The search process is currently underway for the permanent PCPS Associate Dean to replace Dr. Victoria Castellanos, who assumed the role of Dean of PCPS in spring 2022. Applications are due January 13, 2023 for full consideration.
- The Friends of the Weinberg Memorial Library presented the Royden B. Davis, S.J., Distinguished Author Award to Pulitzer prize-winning author, Ayad Akhtar on November 18, 2022.
- The Library has moved to a new service model which utilizes the main service point—the Library Services Desk (formerly the Circulation Desk)—to refer all student and faculty inquiries to the appropriate person. The Research & Instruction Librarians have moved to an On-Call model to support the change in services and will provide one-on-one and small group consultations directly in their offices.
- The Library has secured access to Kanopy Base for the remainder of this academic year, which dramatically increases our streaming media offerings on the Kanopy streaming service.
- Prof. Sylvia Orner has been elected 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President of the Pennsylvania Library Association.
- The University of Scranton's 36<sup>th</sup> Henry George Lecture was held on November 8<sup>th</sup>. Parag Pathak, Ph.D. presented "Still Worth the Trip? Modern-Era Busing and other Lessons from Urban School Reform".
- The Math Department hosted Linda McGuire of Muhlenberg College, who presented "Collaborating for Change: Promoting Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion in Mathematics Departments."
- Business Leadership Program students have adopted a comprehensive set of projects involving branding, new revenue opportunities, and program replication for Homeboy Industries as part of their Business Leadership Consulting Theory and Practice course. Students will consult on a range of potential opportunities, including community and youth program outreach, grant and donor relation development and possible marketing and expansion of educational programming.
- ALLONE Charities has awarded a \$25,000 grant to the University to support free physical therapy services offered by DPT students to vulnerable population in the region. The grant will support the equipment and supplies, translation services and transportation needed for DPT students to conduct faculty-supervised physical therapy and health education clinics for the uninsured and underinsured member of our community.

