



MOUNTAIN CLIMBER



Volume 1, Issue 4

FORT DRUM

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FORT DRUM EDUCATION CENTER



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VISIT OUR WEBSITE: <http://www.drum.army.mil/garrison/director/education/index.htm>

On the Education Services Officer's Desk

Hours of Operation

The Army Education Center at the McEwen Library and Education Complex

Monday Tuesday
Thursday and Friday

0900-1600

Wednesday
1245-1600

(315) 772-6878



The Fort Drum Education Center Mountain Climber

Garrison Commander
COL Emory R. Helton

Director, Readiness Business Center
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Colleges working with the military have long had a unique partnership with Education Centers on installations around the world. This partnership allows soldiers, family members, and Department of the Army civilians the convenience of attending college courses on the installation from among the best regionally accredited institutions throughout the country. All of these partnerships are cemented by contract at overseas locations and by a memorandum of understanding at sites within the continental United States. At Fort Drum, the Education Center has a partnership with the State University of New York (SUNY) Colleges of the North Country.

This consortium at Fort Drum is composed of nine SUNY Colleges that could potentially offer college classes in the area, if needed. The SUNY Colleges of the consortium currently working on Fort Drum are: Jefferson Community College, SUNY Empire State College, SUNY College at Oswego, SUNY College at Potsdam, and SUNY College of Technology at Canton. Currently, SUNY College at Plattsburgh, SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry, the SUNY Health Science Center at Syracuse, and SUNY Institute of Technology at Utica/Rome do not offer courses on the installation because a degree need has not yet been identified through our Needs Assessments survey.

The SUNY Colleges are unique in that they work together to provide the Fort Drum community an array of associate, bachelor, and master degree programs on Fort Drum, Jefferson Community College's main campus, and at their own

campuses. To assist graduates in making an easy transition, SUNY Colleges facilitate transfers of credits from one degree to another. The colleges will also work together to ensure that a student has the necessary courses to complete a degree. For example, a student working on a bachelors degree in Public Justice from SUNY Oswego may take courses from Empire State or SUNY Canton to fill some of the degree requirements not currently offered by SUNY Oswego.



All of the SUNY Colleges on Fort Drum are members of the Servicemember's Opportunity College Army Degree (SOCAD) program. The majority of colleges working with the military belong to this program ensuring that the soldiers/veterans receive college credit for military service experience and a guarantee that credit will transfer to another SOCAD college. Service members are required to fulfill their end of this bargain by applying for a college evaluation after they have taken six semester

hours of credit with that college. College credits gained from the evaluation will provide soldiers additional promotion points as well as a solid plan to focus on degree and career goals.

The SUNY consortium should be applauded for their efforts to serve the Fort Drum community. It's not easy to provide courses of varying levels and topics to a student base that fluctuates due to frequent field problems, deployments, or personnel turnover. Courses are sometimes cancelled due to lack of enrollments and instructors' schedules are changed for these reasons, but the consortium shrugs it off and continues to offer their best.

For more information on SUNY and college enrollments, soldiers are first required to see an Army guidance counselor in Room 128, Building P4300 first. Education Center hours are Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday 0900-1600 and Wednesday from 1245-1600. Family members and Department of the Army civilians may also use the services of the Army counselors. The SUNY office is located in P4300, Room 131. Hours of operation are Monday - Friday 0900-1600.

Carla K. Ortiz
Education Services Officer

SUNY Canton



SUNY Plattsburgh

SUNY Plattsburgh offers the North Country a **Bachelor of Science in Nursing** degree via Telenursing. Telenursing is a *video teleconferencing* based program from its main campus using a dedicated classroom and "face-to-face" contact with instructors. The program is partnered with JCC in Watertown. Applicants to the program must already be registered nurses who are looking to finish their four-year nursing degree.

Several courses through the program are offered during the more traditional 16 week semesters: Fall from August to December and Spring from January to May. For registration materials and more information; interested students may call 1-800-787-8773. Web-based courses are also available through SUNY Learning Network on their website <http://www.SLN.SUNY.edu>.

Marian Weisz
Army Guidance Counselor

SUNY Canton, the Technology Campus in the North Country, has had a long history of offering vocational and technical programs on Fort Drum. The college has worked energetically to try to keep programs in place around field problems and deployments. As early as 1985, during the major buildup of Fort Drum, courses in Engineering Technology, Electrical Engineering Technology, and Automotive Technology were in full swing. As the building boom went away, so did the need for some of the courses.

Canton then tried to maintain some of the courses through unit classes. However, increasing deployments in the 1990s began to drain the pool of soldiers seeking specific technical training and the lack of dedicated workspace made it harder to offer the classes.

SUNY Canton hopes to start the Automotive Technology program again with the support of Mr. Joseph McLaughlin, Deputy, Community Recreation Division, to use the Auto Crafts Center as a permanent base for classes. The plan is to start with a class in Auto Electrical Systems in the Spring of 2003, to take advantage of the new 100% TA rate for soldiers. Previous automotive background is helpful, but not required.

SUNY Canton also hopes to start courses on a regular basis leading to a **Certificate in Criminal Investigation**. To qualify for the program, students must meet one of the following criteria:



- have an Associate's degree in Criminal Justice.
- hold the Military Occupational Skill (MOS) classification of Military Police (95B) or Criminal Investigation Division Special Agent (95D).
- be a New York State Certified Police Officer.

The program will start with a three-week long seminar in Interviews and Interrogations, after the beginning of the new fiscal year. Three additional classes are required for the certificate and are scheduled for Fort Drum this fall and early spring 2003. They are Forensic Photography, Latent Prints and Impressions, and Crime Scene Investigation.

For more information about either the Automotive Technology or Criminal Investigation Program or any of SUNY Canton's programs or courses, contact Ms. Wanda Lancaster, SUNY Colleges Office, Room 132, Bldg P-4300, 772-5477.

Marian Weisz
Army Guidance Counselor

Education Updates

100% Tuition Assistance (TA)

EFFECTIVE DATE: FY 2003 - DA guidance is pending

100% TA may be authorized for all approved post-secondary opportunities beginning after 1 October 2002. The per semester hour cap will be \$250; the annual cap will be \$4500.

Registration Policy:

Tuition assistance may be granted up to the last day of the late registration period at a specific school. The Education Center **strongly recommends** that tuition assistance be returned to the specific college as soon as the Commander's signature has been obtained to avoid course cancellation.

Installation Security Issues

If you are a planning to attend any college courses offered by the Education Center, particularly family members and civilians, please keep the installation security checks in mind. Register for the class early so your name is included on the class list, have all documents readily available for inspection by security police, and allow time to gain access to the installation. **Notify the instructor if problems arise.**

Jefferson Community College



History

Jefferson Community College (JCC) was chartered in 1961 and was initially accredited by the Middle States Association in 1969. It is one of the 64 campuses - and one of 30 community colleges - which make up the State University of New York (SUNY) system. It is the only institution of higher education whose campus is within a 50 mile radius of the city of Watertown. JCC admitted 119 full and 221 part-time students to its first class in September 1963. In the fall 1999 semester, JCC's total headcount was 1,698 full-time and 1,581 part-time students.

Degree Programs

JCC offers a variety of degree programs to fulfill your career and educational goals and to guide you into the future. It is a place for you to discover your interests and build on your talents. It's a place to grow and a place to learn. JCC schedules classes for every learner, from the honors student to the individual who requires remedial assistance.

The College offers 15 Associate in Applied Sciences (A.A.S.) career curricula, 10 transfer Associate of Art (A.A) or Associate of Science (A.S.) curricula, and

8 certificate programs. Along with its credit bearing programs, the College offers a variety of workshops, seminars, and workforce training opportunities.

JCC offers 6 online degree programs: Business Administration A.S., Criminal Justice A.S., Liberal Arts - Humanities and Social Sciences A.A., Individual Studies A.S., Individual Studies, A.S., and Individual Studies, A.A.S.

SOCAD and military evaluations

In 1985, JCC became a member of the Service members Opportunity College Army Degree (SOCAD) program. SOCAD is a worldwide system comprised of a continually expanding number of two and four year colleges. The system is designed to develop networks of colleges who serve the military population - networks designed to facilitate education opportunities for those service members and their adult family members. Within a SOCAD network, colleges commit to

requirements for limited residency, transfer guarantee, use of recommended credits from military service schools and experience, as well as non-traditional programs as determined by the American Council on Education (ACE).

JCC's acceptance of the ACE recommendations is beneficial to soldiers seeking promotion points as well as college education. They post recommended credits to official transcripts for matriculated students after the completion of one class with the college. JCC also has a for fee military credit evaluation that is currently accepted by Enlisted Promotions.

Counseling and Advisement is provided by one full-time and one part-time academic advisor in the Fort Drum SUNY Office. They provide administrative, academic, and vocational counseling to potential and enrolled students; military, family members, and civilians.

New Initiatives

Student Online Access to Records (SOAR)

SOAR allows students to view and print important student records at no charge. Included in the list of records are student copies of transcripts, class schedules, final grades, financial aid and accounting statements. Access SOAR through the JCC website Monday-Friday, 0700-2000.

Distance Learning (DL)

Jefferson Community College students are now taking advantage of distance learning courses. As the name implies, distance learning is coursework that is offered with physical distance between instructor and student - usually many miles. Coming to campus at a given time and place is no longer the only option. JCC offers three different modes of distance learning - online, two way interactive video, and telecourse.

Online courses are taken via the Internet. JCC offers both credit as well as non-credit workshops in this format.

Two-Way Interactive courses are interactive video teleconferencing based courses broadcast live to other locations in the North Country and beyond.

Telecourses are courses that include a portion of instruction pre-taped and broadcast on a local television station.

Flexibility is at the heart of distance learning; by offering courses through DL and other learning opportunities, JCC ensures that going to college can fit into anyone's schedule.

Kerry Parker
Army Guidance Counselor

SUNY Potsdam

Located in the picturesque North Country, SUNY Potsdam is one of 13 SUNY arts and science colleges that comprise the 64 campuses of the SUNY system. Founded in 1816 as St. Lawrence Academy, it grew into the Potsdam Normal School (1868) and in 1942 was renamed the State Teacher's College. With the founding of the SUNY system in 1948, SUNY Potsdam became part of the largest multi-campus university in the Northeast.

Throughout its long history, Potsdam has provided the residents of the North Country and New York with quality education - as stated in its mission - " charged with the responsibility for providing educational opportunities for those who can benefit from them".

With a student enrollment of 3,583 full and part-time, SUNY Potsdam's population represents an interesting and diverse group from across the United States and many foreign countries, studying within a wide range of undergraduate and graduate programs.

As a member of the SUNY Colleges in the North Country, Potsdam brings this dedication to academic excellence to Fort Drum in its undergraduate and graduate programs.

SUNY Potsdam is the principal provider at Fort Drum for graduate degree programs in educational and teacher certification. Under the direction of Tom Yousey, the program brings together military students seeking careers in education and seasoned teachers seeking certification.



THE STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK
Potsdam

Two degree programs offered by SUNY Potsdam are collective efforts with Jefferson Community College (JCC). JCC's AS in Business Administration is jointly registered with Potsdam's BSBA. JCC's AA in Elementary Education with Potsdam's BA program. Students in these programs are simultaneously admitted to both colleges.

Diane Turo-Hughes
Army Guidance Counselor



The State University of New York at Oswego is located approximately 70 miles southwest of Fort Drum. Incorporated in 1861 as a normal school, it joined the State University system as a teacher's college in 1948.

Classroom courses are offered by Oswego under the SUNY Colleges in the North Country with courses and programs in the following areas of professional focus: courses in Public Justice, with specialization in Criminal Justice; Human Services, and Legal Studies, a Masters in Human Services and Counseling, both undergraduate and graduate degrees in Business Administration (BS/MBA) and Vocational/Technical Education.

The School of Business recently announced that it is under review for accreditation of the BSBA and MBA programs by the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of

Business (AACSB). The AACSB is a specialized and professional accrediting body recognized by the Department of Education for its certification of undergraduate, graduate, and doctoral business programs. AACSB also accredits the business schools of such prestigious institutions as Duke and Harvard.

The School of Education was recently accredited by the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE).

SUNY Oswego offers its courses in a traditional 16-week semester, one night a week on Fort Drum and online courses through the SUNY Learning Network (SLN).

If you are interested in any of the programs offered by SUNY Oswego at Fort Drum or Main Campus please contact the SUNY Oswego representative, Dr. Larry Mayo, at 773-9007, Monday 10am to 4pm.

Diane Smith
Army Guidance Counselor

SUNY Empire State College



Founded in 1971, Empire State College was the first public nontraditional institution of higher education to receive regional accreditation. The College is one of the oldest and most respected venues offering nontraditional study for adult learners.

Empire State College is based on the Open University system of mentors working with students individually. The College provides study geared to meet each individual's learning style by using guided independent study, study groups, distance learning and cross enrollment with more traditional institutions to obtain the student's educational goal. An educational value that is core to Empire State's philosophy is the educational credibility of lifelong learning and the granting of college credit for that knowledge.

The College offers a number of degrees at the associate, bachelor, and graduate levels with concentrations in 11 major areas of study. These programs are a unique combination of degree planning by the individual student, mentor advisement and

educational resource support. Together with your mentor, you will develop a degree plan, and then chart a course to completion using the array of educational methods available.

On Fort Drum, SUNY Empire State College maintains a Unit, with a professional staff representing many educational fields. They are available daily to assist and advise students.

Dr. Joanne Corsica, program coordinator for the Fort Drum site, mentors and tutors individuals in human services and the social sciences. Larry Reynolds is the mentor for the business policy and management. Dr. Marina Privman mentors the natural science and mathematics. The college can provide an expert in a wide variety of subjects through a large network of local

professionals. The college is also one of a small number of colleges in the new education and retention initiative, eArmyU. In eArmyU, you will work with Empire's Center for Distance Learning located in Saratoga Springs, NY. The center provides a full range of independent courses, and degrees in all areas of study offered by the college.

Soldiers, family members, and other members of our Army community looking for a flexible, personalized degree program, will want to stop by the Education Center for more information or call SUNY Empire State College's Fort Drum site at 773-6139. For highly motivated individuals, Empire State College holds information sessions every Thursday at 1600 hours in the Post Library, Building P4300.

Les Barbour
Army Guidance Counselor

SCOREBOARD

Students Briefed	Students Counseled	Student Participation Agreements Signed
363	354	287



SUNY COLLEGES IN THE NORTH COUNTRY

College Basics 101

The maze of college vocabulary, testing, application forms, and registration materials can often be overwhelming to a first time student. Colleges don't intend for new students to feel like they've just dropped from another planet. It just seems that way. This page will hopefully define some college terms and clarify procedures.

Advising

Most people don't know where to begin when it comes to attending college or taking college courses. The **college advisor** is a great place to start. Here on Fort Drum we have advisors for Jefferson Community College, SUNY Empire State College, SUNY Oswego, and SUNY Potsdam. These individuals can explain the process of applying to the college, discuss possible degree programs, and how to register for class.

If you are an active duty service member, you will want to visit your Army Education Center first for information concerning the Army education program.

Matriculation

Matriculation simply means **to apply to and be accepted into a specific degree program at a particular college**. Examples of degree programs include Criminal Justice, Business, Liberal Arts, and Individual Studies.

Registration

Registration is the process of **filling out paperwork to enroll in a specific class or classes by the college you are attending**. Registration does not mean matriculation.

Credit Hour

College courses are assigned **credit hours, a basic measure of how long you sit in a class for a particular course**. One credit hour is normally granted for satisfactory completion of fifteen 50 minute sessions of classroom instruction.

The average college course is usually worth three semester hours.

Full time or Part time

When deciding to attend college, you must decide whether or not you will attend full time or part time. The **distinction is based on the number of credit hours you sign up for**, not how many days of the week you attend class.

Full time means that a student registers for 12 or more credit hours. Part time means that a student registers for as few as one credit hour or as many as 11.

Financial Aid

There are many kinds of financial aid to help you pay for college. **The best place to look is with your chosen college's financial aid office.** One reminder, you must

be **matriculated** into a degree program and taking at least one three credit hour course to receive most forms of financial aid.

Tuition

Tuition is the **amount of money colleges charge** for a class or classes. There are two ways tuition is figured: full time or flat rate, for students enrolled in 12 credit hours or more, reflecting a single or flat cost. Part time (11 credit hours or less) is charged by the credit hour.

Fees and other college costs

Tuition is not the only cost that comes from taking college courses. Additional costs can include fees for college services and books. These costs can add up quickly and increase your overall costs, so be careful when planning your college budget. Explore every source for financial aid.

Army Tuition Assistance

Army Tuition Assistance (TA) represents **Army operational funds set aside to support off duty voluntary education. It is designed to pay for tuition only**. When requesting TA, soldiers must first see an Army education counselor to determine their eligibility.

Once the TA form is issued by the Education Center, the soldier must obtain their company commander's signature on the form, acknowledging commander approval for the soldier to be taking the class.

Obtaining both the form and commander's approval **does not register you for the course! It does mean that you have Army approval to expend TA within the limits established by DoD and DA.**

Once you have all the signatures, bring the TA form to the SUNY College office at Fort Drum. Register for the class and pay your portion of the tuition. This process takes anywhere from 20 to 45 minutes. It's much more involved than just walking in and "dropping off" the TA form. (Many spouses have unhappily found this out after being sent by their husbands or wives to "drop off" the form. They were surprised to find that there is quite a bit of paperwork that must be filled out.)

Another piece of advice. **If you are receiving TA, we recommend that you don't register on campus**. Many college registrars are not familiar with TA forms and don't know how to handle them. This can result in TA forms never being processed and the soldier receiving a bill for the full cost of the course.

Paying for a course

The SUNY office at Fort Drum has no means of keeping large amounts of cash. For that reason, **we only take payment in the forms of check, money order, and credit card (Visa, MasterCard, or Discover).**

Dropping a course

Following correct procedures to drop a course is **CRITICAL**.

If you must drop, and are receiving **Army Tuition Assistance**, your first step is **see an Army counselor**. The counselor will help you initiate the right paperwork. **If you are using TA and do not correctly drop a course, you are required to pay back the**

government. Telling the instructor that you're dropping doesn't drop you from the course.

If you are not using TA and you have to drop a course, please come to the SUNY College office. We'll give you the forms and the procedures to complete the drop painlessly.

Register early

Please don't wait until the last minute to register for a college course. The course could fill or could be canceled by the college if not enough people sign up. Remember, simply having an approved TA form does not mean that you're enrolled in the course. You must register.

Wanda Lancaster
Consortium Director, SUNY Colleges
of the North Country



Late Fall Courses Jefferson Community College 10/21-12/16/02

ACC102	Acct Principles	MW	6-9:34pm	4sh
ART115	Art Appreciation I	MW	6-9:00pm	3sh
CIS110	Intro to Computers	MW	6-9:35pm	3sh
CRJ102	Criminal Admin	MW	6-9:00pm	3sh
ENG100	Comp I	MW	6-9:00pm	3sh
ENG101	Comp II	MW	6-9:00pm	3sh
ENG171	Short Story	MW	6-9:00pm	3sh
HOS101	Intro Hosp & Tour	MW	6-9:00pm	3sh
BUS131	Princ of Mgmt	MW	6-9:00pm	3sh

BUS160	Spreadsheet Apps	TuTh	6-9:35pm	3sh
ECO100	Elem of Econ	TuTh	6-9:00pm	3sh
GEO102	Planet Earth	TuTh	6-9:00pm	3sh
HIS151	Am Hist 1865	TuTh	6--9:00pm	3sh
MTH155	College Algebra	TuTh	6-9:00pm	3sh
PSY239	Death & Dying	TuTh	6-9:00pm	3sh
SOC144	Intro Sociology	TuTh	6-9:00pm	3sh
SOC245	Criminology	TuTh	6-9:00pm	3sh
SPA122	Elem Spanish 2	TuTh	6-9:00pm	3sh

HIS112	Hist West Civ 2	M-Th	11:30-12:45pm	3sh
POL121	Intro Am Gov	M-Th	11:30-12:45pm	3sh

SUNY Canton

JUST303	Interviews& Interrogations	TBD
JUST300	Forensic Photography	TBD
JUST301	Latent Prints & Impressions	TBD
JUST305	Crime Scene Investigation	TBD

Days and times for these classes are currently being decided on.

JUST courses will be three weeks long and lead to a Certificate in Criminal Investigation. All courses will be taught on Fort Drum by nationally recognized experts. Eligibility requirements for these courses are:

- Criminal Justice Degree at 2-year level
- or
- NYS Certified Police Officer
- or
- MOS Classification of MP (95B) or CID (95D)