

BC3's summer courses a chance to get ahead and save, vice president says

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(Butler, PA) Butler County Community College's selection of nearly 200 summer courses will provide BC3 students an opportunity to stay on track for graduation or to get ahead, and visiting students a chance to save on tuition, according to BC3's vice president for academic affairs.

"Many students find that they can supplement their course load during the academic year by taking classes in the summer," said Dr. Belinda Richardson, BC3's chief academic officer. "The summer sessions are shortened and students share that they can often focus more intensely because they are usually taking fewer courses at the same time."

BC3 will hold three summer sessions – in traditional classroom, online and hybrid formats and lasting four, 12 and eight weeks – and consecutive five-week Fast Tracks.

BC3's tuition is the least expensive when compared with 41 other regional colleges and universities, according to the U.S. Department of Education's College Scorecard. BC3's credits transfer to public, private and online institutions.

"As a summer guest student, the low tuition, transferability of credits and convenience of location makes sense for those who wish to advance in their educational goals," said John Suesser, director of BC3 @ LindenPointe in Hermitage.

Numerous students home on summer break from other institutions contact her about taking classes, said Jill Martin Rend, director of BC3 @ Brockway in Brockway.

"It's a way for them to save money," she said, "and graduate on time."

Session 1, with its traditional classroom format, is scheduled from May 14 to June 7 and will include a selection of 43 courses in topics such as introduction to painting, speech, macroeconomics, recent U.S. history and psychology.

In addition to BC3's main campus, Session 1 courses will be held at BC3 @ Armstrong in Ford City; BC3 @ Cranberry in Cranberry Township; BC3 @ Lawrence Crossing in New Castle; and BC3 @ LindenPointe in Hermitage.

Session 2, scheduled from May 14 to Aug. 2, includes 64 courses in traditional classroom settings on BC3's main campus, BC3 @ Cranberry and BC3 @ Lawrence Crossing, and in online and hybrid formats. Among the menu of classes being offered are those in accounting for managers, biology I, introduction to religions of the world, principles of sociology and health science.

Among the 66 courses offered in traditional classroom settings in Session 3, set for June 11 to Aug. 2, are those in descriptive chemistry, college writing, preparatory algebra, introduction to philosophy and physics. Session 3 courses will be held at BC3's main campus and at its additional locations.

Ten online courses are set for Fast Track 1, to be held from May 14 to June 18; and nine for Fast Track 2, set for June 25 to July 30. Topics include world geography, human growth and development, microeconomics, research writing and intermediate algebra.

For more information, visit bc3.edu.