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Study Smarter, Not Harder

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What's Happening around Campus
Introduction to Lecture Series

Butler is full of rich opportunities to become informed about a wide array of subjects. The campus hosts five main lecture series on topics of religion, arts, diversity, literature, and science/mathematics. Below is a list of all the lecture series and a brief description. These series will be highlighted throughout the year.

Visiting Writers Series: The Vivian S. Delbrook Visiting Writers Series at Butler University regularly hosts public readings and Q&A sessions with some of the most influential people in contemporary literature. **www.butler.edu/writersstudio**

Celebration of Diversity Distinguished Lecture Series: The Celebration of Diversity Distinguished Lecture Series promotes ethnic diversity and multicultural awareness through increased interaction with high profile multicultural scholars, dignitaries and personalities. **www.butler.edu/diversity/programs-and-services/cultural-programs-and-resources**

J. James Woods Lectures in the Sciences and Mathematics: The goal of the Woods bequest is to bring prominent mathematicians and natural scientists to Butler University in order to speak on theories at the frontier of their disciplines, as well as on related technologies and other issues of public concern. **www.butler.edu/woodslectures**

Butler Seminar on Religion and World Civilization: This four-part seminar series brings scholars, religious leaders and other experts from across the nation and around the world to Butler for discussions about the intersection of religion and major issues of our time. **www.butler.edu/cfv**

Leadership Through the Arts Forum Series: The Leadership Through the Arts Forum brings creative leaders with national reputations to Butler to inspire dialogue, heighten collaboration and foster community spirit.

Important Resources
Introduction to Student Disability Services

The office of Student Disability Services facilitates the educational experience of students with disabilities by acting as a point of coordination for support services. Any student with a documented physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities may qualify. Written documentation is required in order to establish eligibility for services. Support services are individualized and developed on a case-by-case basis. Services might include, but are not limited to:

- access to speech recognition software systems
- assistance with note taking
- assistance with recorded textbooks
- alternative test arrangements
- extended time on examinations
- access to screen reading software system
- use of tape recorders for classroom lectures
- assistance with self advocacy
- individual and group support services
- assistance with adaptive technology.
- course substitutions, in limited circumstances (**www.butler.edu/disability**; go to accommodations)
- relocation of class to an accessible site, if needed

(Support services do not include services/equipment of a personal nature.)

Generally, students are asked to submit written documentation based on an evaluation by an appropriate licensed professional. The documentation is reviewed by Student Disability Services and, if found to be warranted, a reasonable plan of assistance will be developed. More specific information regarding the establishment of eligibility is outlined in the written procedural materials provided by Student Disability Services. Materials are available in standard print or alternate media upon request and are also available on-line at **www.butler.edu/disability.**

Students who have questions about Student Disability Services or who have, or think they may have, a disability (psychiatric, attentional, learning, vision, hearing, physical or medical condition etc.) are invited to contact Student Disability Services for a confidential discussion in Jordan Hall 136 or by phone at (317) 940-9308.

Brought to you by the
Learning Resource Center at Butler University

Jordan Hall 136 • (317) 940-9308 • learning@butler.edu
www.butler.edu/learning • www.butler.edu/exploratory

You can submit article ideas and suggestions to learning@butler.edu.

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On the Road...

TO LEARNING • TO OPPORTUNITY • TO SUCCESS

September Edition, 2010

Welcome Letter from SGA President Chris Ring

As President of the Student Government Association, I'd like to welcome you to Butler University!

Butler University is full of students who are passionate and hard working, and, as a result, involvement is very important. In fact, 93 percent of students are engaged in a co-curricular activity on campus.

Research suggests that involved students earn better grades and are, overall, more satisfied with their academic experience. In addition to this, being involved allows students an opportunity to make a positive impact on both Butler University and the Indianapolis community. Over 150 student organizations exist on campus to fulfill one important goal: to enhance the Butler community.

As a first-year student, I sought to become involved with student government, and it has become a strong part of my identity on campus. Being a member of this organization gave me the confidence and feeling of camaraderie that I needed to truly embrace my academic and social experience at Butler. From my personal experience, I cannot begin to express how endlessly beneficial being an involved member of Butler University can be.

The Student Government Association, the governing body for all student organizations, is a great reference for students interested in getting more involved. Student Government offers leadership positions for first year students within its five executive boards. I encourage you to visit the Student Government Association website at **www.butler.edu/sga** for more information.

It is my sincere hope that each of you embraces the opportunity to become an active member of the Butler community!

If you have any questions, feel free to contact me via email at cring@butler.edu at any time.

Welcome to Butler! I look forward to meeting as many of you as I can!

Christopher Ring
Student Government Association President

What is Blackboard?

Many of your professors will use Blackboard, an online system that posts assignments, grades and other important class information. Make it a habit to log into Blackboard on a regular basis: **https://blackboard.butler.edu.**

Quick Tip: Get to know your professor

It shows you care about the class and want to succeed. Tell your professor if you're having difficulty. Ask questions. Take advantage of your professor's office hours. Your professor is there to help you learn.

Study Smarter, Not Harder

By Dr. Tara Lineweaver and Dr. Mandy Gingerich

1. Pay Attention: When studying, focus only on studying, minimizing distractions (extraneous noises, telephone calls and texts, email, crowds). You will get your studying and your socializing done much more efficiently if you set aside separate times to tackle each.
2. Skim, Listen, Read, Repeat (SLRR): Skim the assigned readings prior to the class when they will be discussed, listen to the lecture, reread the assignment carefully paying special attention to the sections covered in class, and repeat as necessary. You will get more from class if you have skimmed the assignment prior to the lecture, and you will get more from the reading if you return to it after the professor has explained key concepts.
3. Don't Rote Memorize: Try to make sense of the information you are learning. Relate it to everyday life and to personal experiences. Make sure you understand what you are learning and how it all fits together. If you don't understand it, ask your professor to explain it again during class or during office hours.
4. Study A Little A Lot: Study every subject several times a week. Review your notes the evening after each class or the next day rather than waiting until just before a quiz or examination to review what you have learned. Studying for an exam will take much less time if you have reviewed your notes several times in the interim than if you wait and cram. You may want to create a study schedule that sets aside specific times during the week for reviewing your notes from each class.
5. Quiz Yourself: When reviewing your notes, don't just reread them. Be sure to quiz yourself. Flashcards are one method of achieving this, but you can also simply look away from your notes and practice recalling the information on your own. Explain key concepts to your roommate or parents. If you can't do it, you are not yet ready for the exam. Keep quizzing and explaining until you are sure you can recall the information without relying on your book or notes.
6. If At First You Don't Succeed, Try Something Else: If you are not doing as well in a class as you would like, get help. Consult with the professor, use the Learning Resource Center, utilize tutoring that is available, and find other students who are having greater success and ask them for tips. If you keep approaching the class in the same way, you will likely get the same result. Find another approach.
7. It Is Never Too Early: Semesters go fast. Do not fall behind. Keep up with the readings and the written assignments, and, if you are not able to, reprioritize your time. Once you fall behind, your work in all of your classes will start to suffer.
8. Take Care of Yourself: Sleep. Eat. Have fun. Taking care of yourself physically, mentally and emotionally is even more essential to your success in college as studying is.

Butler's Libraries

Need to find quality research materials for your paper or project? Are you wondering which database to use to start your research? Do you need to find a quiet study space or a place to meet-up with your classmates for a group project? Then visit Butler's Libraries.

Butler Libraries consists of two campus libraries. Irwin Library includes business, liberal arts, communication, performing arts, and fine arts resources as well as the Special Collections, Rare Books and University Archives room. In addition, Irwin's Education Commons houses education books, journals, and children's and young adult literature collections. The Ruth Lilly Science Library, Holcomb, Room 210, houses materials in the fields of pharmacy, physical and biological sciences, psychology, mathematics, and computer sciences. Butler Libraries provide computer labs; rooms and spaces for individual and group study; laptop, netbooks, and digital cameras for check-out; wireless network access; and laser printing.

For additional information about resources and services, as well as library hours, visit **www.butler.edu/library** or stop in and visit the Irwin's Information Commons desk or the Science Library's service desk.

University Library Directory

Irwin Library Check-out Desk:
(317) 940-9227

Irwin Library Information Commons:
(317) 940-9235; text (317) 758-3351

Ruth Lilly Science Library
(Holcomb 210):
(317) 940-9401; text 265010
(in the body of the text type "ButlerScienceLib: yourmessage)

On campus: dial last four digits only

Earn a Little Money While You're in College!

If you need some cash, you could call your parents and ask them for money — but there's no guarantee that they'll give it to you! Another option is to work part-time on campus in one of the many jobs offered at Butler. You may think that working on campus will interfere with your school work; however, that's frequently not true. Your hours will be set around your class schedule, you will become more adept at time management skills, and you will meet people who can become professional references someday.

There are two types of employment: federal work study and regular student employment. If you are a work study student, you will have received notification through your financial aid award. This simply means that the government will provide most of the money you earn when you work. If you are a regular student employee, your salary will come from Butler.

To find out what types of jobs are available, go to **www.butler.edu/career/for-employers/jobs-on-campus** and there you'll find a link where you can download job search instructions.

Fall Alternative Break

While some students choose to go home or hang around campus over fall break, a group of Butler students and staff spend their break helping others. For the past thirteen years, Fall Alternative Break (FAB) has sponsored a service learning trip for students to reach out to a community and volunteer.

To read about the FAB destination for this year and/or to get involved in this fun volunteer experience, go to **www.butler.edu/volunteer/for-students/fall-alternative-break.**

The Benefits of an On-Campus Job

A Conversation with Chaise Carter

Chaise Carter is a sophomore studying history and political science and he is one of the many students at Butler who is working on campus. He has worked for over a year at Internship and Careers Services (ICS) as a Student Assistant and really enjoys his job. When asked why he decided to work on campus, he explained that he was awarded federal work study and figured he could use the extra money since he pays for college himself.

He found his job by going to an information session during Early Registration that introduced him to BLUE. BLUE is an online database that posts jobs and internships **(http://www.butler.edu/career)**. Chaise has a number of responsibilities; he checks the emails from employers and responds to them, answers student and employer questions by phone and in person, and sorts employment applications.

The best part of the job, Chaise says, is working with people; there's a large variety of students who walk into the ICS office every day. He finds it challenging when he gets a strange question. He said one woman called and wanted a face painter for her child's birthday party. He wasn't quite sure what to tell her so he asked a staff member for help.

How does he manage completing his schoolwork while working? He only works six hours per week. His schedule is very flexible; his supervisor feels that school always comes first so he's allowed to take time off when he needs to work on a project or has to study for an exam.

Chaise's advice for students thinking of working on campus is to become familiar with BLUE. Also make sure you create a resume and cover letter; many of the on-campus jobs require this. When you get a job, be friendly, he says, and don't be afraid to talk to people. That way you'll get the most out of your on-campus employment experience.