NEW STUDENT ORIENTATION
Agenda
9:15 am – 11:15 am: Workshops
11:15 am – 1:30 pm: General Information and Lunch
The U.S. Higher Education System

- Associate's Degree
- Bachelor's Degree
- Master's Degree
- Ph.D. or professional degrees (M.D., J.D., and D.D.S., among others)
• A private, not-for-profit institution

• The most affordable private college in Illinois

• Founded in 1980

• Only bilingual college in Illinois

• Accredited by the Higher Learning Commission

• Named by NYT as #1 in impacting the socioeconomic status of its students
SAC Degrees- Bachelor Degrees

- Social Work
- Psychology
- Hospitality Management
- Business Administration
- Computer Information Systems
ASSOCIATE DEGREES

ASSOCIATE OF ARTS (Prepares the student to enter a Bachelor Program)

- Liberal Arts and Science
- Business Administration

ASSOCIATE OF APPLIED SCIENCE (Designed for students who plan to enter the workforce upon graduation)

- Accounting
- Administrative Assistant
- Business Management
- Computer Information Systems
- Culinary Arts
- Early Childhood Education
- Respiratory Therapy

ASSOCIATE OF GENERAL STUDIES
ACADEMIC ADVISING

ALL SITES

9 AM – 7 PM WEEKDAYS; 9 AM – 1 PM SATURDAYS

BILINGUAL ADVISORS

• Assigned to an advisor at the beginning of the semester, but you can meet with any advisor as needed.

• You should meet your advisor on a regular basis to discuss
  • Needs
  • Academic progress
  • Future academic and career goals
  • Student resources
GETTING TO KNOW THE CATALOG

• THE ONLINE CATALOG CONTAINS...
  • A BRIEF HISTORY OF ST. AUGUSTINE COLLEGE
  • ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS
  • REGISTRATION PROCEDURES
  • FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS
  • FINANCIAL AID ISSUES
  • ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS
  • DEGREES OFFERED BY SAC
  • COURSE DESCRIPTIONS
  • STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT
IMPORTANT DEADLINES

Always refer to the Catalog’s for updated information

- Last day to change courses: 2nd Saturday
- Last day to drop courses without a grade and receive 100% refund: 3rd Saturday
- Last day to drop (partially or completely) under SW: Monday of Week 14th
OTHER DATES TO CONSIDER

- EARLY REGISTRATION
- BOOK RETURNS
- MIDTERM AND FINAL EXAMS
- FINANCIAL AID APPLICATION (FALL)
- FINANCIAL AID PENDING DOCS DEADLINE
PREREQUISITES

Prerequisites are courses that need to be taken before

- Taking a required course
- Other courses you want to take
SERVICES FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES OR SPECIAL NEEDS

If you receive special education services or have an IEP, please bring the documents to your academic advisor.
ATTENDANCE

- Attend ALL classes, on-time
- Absent? Email your instructor = professional respect (still be marked absent)
- Missing 40% may affect financial assistance
GRADES

Learning the course content is more important than an A grade

- Your GPA is important for Bachelor programs, scholarships, and transferring
  (C grade required for transferring)
- Passing Grade: D grade (for most degrees)
- Appealing a grade: Check the Catalog for process
INCOMPLETES

• Not a “solution” for a failing course
• Only assigned if a student is passing a course with a C grade
• Request from instructor: Instructor’s decision is final
• Must complete requirements before next semester ends; avoid IF
SAC DEPARTMENTS AND MAIN OFFICES

• ADMISSIONS (3656)
• ACADEMIC AFFAIRS (3654)
• ACADEMIC ADVISING (3216)
• TRANSFER CENTER (3960)
• FINANCIAL AID (3806 & 3683)
• BURSAR (4251)
• LIBRARY (3710)
• INSTRUCTIONAL SUPPORT (TUTORING-3654)
• FOR OTHER SITES, SEE SITE STAFF

773-878- (    )
• Missing documents
• Bring a Friend Campaign

ADMISSIONS: 773-878-3656
• Academic Departments
  • Social Work and Psychology
  • Early Childhood Education and Social Sciences
  • Languages, Literature, and Humanities
  • Sciences and Health
  • Computer Information Systems, Business, and Culinary Arts

• Office Hours: All resident faculty and chairs post office hours outside their door. Go visit them!

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS: 773-878-3654
• Administers
  • Federal, state, and institutional grants
  • Loans
  • Work study program

• ALL students must fill out the FAFSA application yearly

• Missing FA deadlines = losing eligibility

• Counselors available at all sites
BURSAR’S OFFICE: 773-878-4251

- Determines your balance, if any; cooperate with Bursar’s to find a satisfactory solution for your case

- Financial advising available

- Be financially savvy from day 1

- Payment plans

- An outstanding balance affects
  - transcripts and diplomas
  - registration
TRANSFER AND CAREER CENTER
773-878-3960

Can help you:

- Find a job
- If receiving services for Veterans
- Create a resume
- Prepare for interviews
- Transfer to a four-year institution
CANVAS: OUR LEARNING MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

- CANVAS PROVIDES RESOURCES TO EDUCATE STUDENTS IN A COLLABORATIVE AND TECHNOLOGICALLY ADVANCED ENVIRONMENT
- MOST FACULTY USE IT AS A SUPPLEMENTAL RESOURCE; OTHERS WILL TAKE ADVANTAGE OF ITS MOST ADVANCED FEATURES
- CANVAS IS SMARTPHONE/TABLET FRIENDLY
- GRADES, CALENDAR, HOMEWORK, QUIZZES, COURSE MATERIALS, ACCESS FROM ANYWHERE.... POSSIBILITIES ARE LIMITLESS
TUTORING

- Math and English; maybe others
- Begins the 3rd week of classes
- Hours posted at each location
- Bring your course materials and assignment description

Struggling in a class? Talk to your instructor & advisor
INFORMATION COMMONS

Access Library resources ONLINE anywhere!

- Thousands of E-books and journals in English & Spanish
- Research Companion & Tutorials
- Free Grammar Check: PaperRater
- Connected to the world of academia
ID CARDS AND SAC EMAIL

- College ID card
  - Used to access resources
  - Take advantage of student discounts

- SAC E-mail
  - College communications sent to your SAC email
  - Submit assignments
  - Contact IT staff for help and access instructions
COMPUTER AND INTERNET ACCESS

- Computer labs are available at all sites
- Log-in to SAC WiFi with personal laptops, tablets and cell phones
- Check out laptops from IT for class if needed
- Especially important if you’re taking hybrid or Canvas-supported classes
UPDATE CONTACT INFORMATION

Why?

- Financial Aid: Important Documents and Scholarships
- Registrar’s Office: Transcripts
- Important Deadlines: Adding/Dropping courses, Refunds, Transfer Options
- Upcoming Events: Workshops, Job Fairs
- Notifications: Emergencies
STUDENT COMPLAINTS

- Right to a fair hearing
- Practice your conflict resolution skills 1st
- Process
  - Written student complaint
  - Office of Academic Advising and SAC website

Grade appeals are not considered a student complaint
CLASS AND INSTRUCTOR EVALUATION

- Giving honest feedback about courses and instructors
- Anonymous
- Completed around week 11 of each semester; may vary for classes with different schedules
- Another chance for your voice to be heard
• Class schedule
• Study time: 2-3 hrs/week per class
• Family involvement
• Attend workshops
• You're responsible for your books
• Ask questions
• Not all classes will be available at the location, day, and time of your convenience
• Be aware of your financial responsibility
GOOD LUCK! SEE YOU GRAD DAY!