

INTERNATIONAL STUDIES PROGRAM

The college offers international studies programs in a variety of fields to help prepare students to be successful in the increasingly global marketplace. These programs permit students to live and study abroad while completing degree/program requirements. In addition to college-sponsored programs, students may participate in exchange and other study abroad programs through some of the college's approved study abroad consortia. Exchange programs permit students to pay CCCCD tuition for overseas study. Scholarships and financial aid may be used to finance the international academic experience. For information about what programs are being offered and how to take advantage of this opportunity, call 972.881.5810.

STUDENT LEADERSHIP ACADEMY (SLA)

POTENTIAL — “The possibility, capability, and capacity for growth” captures the spirit of the Student Leadership Academy (SLA). The academy is a nine-month course (SPCH 2333) designed to promote leadership practices that foster teamwork and integrity in personal and professional development through scholarship and service.

The academy will consist of ten meetings over two semesters. Class meetings will rotate between the Courtyard Center and the Central Park, Preston Ridge, and Spring Creek campuses. The SLA will meet one Friday afternoon a month and one Saturday morning.

Topics to be studied include: Communication/Leadership Styles, Leading Through Diversity, Visioning and Strategic Planning, Relationship Building and Group Dynamics, Wellness and Stress Management, and Problem Solving and Decision-making. In addition, students will develop cumulative portfolios, deliver presentations, and work in teams. Guest speakers from business, industry, and academia will share their leadership experiences and the qualities they seek in potential leaders.

Students that have at least a 2.5 GPA, six completed credit hours, and a desire to work hard and explore their leadership potential are invited to fill out an application. A commitment to complete the nine-month academic year SLA program is required. For more information, please call 972.377.1749.

LEARNING COMMUNITIES

Learning Communities, in collaboration with Service-Learning, received national recognition when these programs were jointly awarded the 2001 Bellwether Award.

Recognized by the Fund for the Improvement of Post-Secondary Education (FIPSE) and the Pew Charitable Trust, CCCCD's Learning Communities program emphasizes education in a synergistic environment, where learning is reciprocal. The

program forms a single course by blending two disciplines with a common theme or central question. Students are then taught by the professors representing the areas of study and meet in a block of time equivalent to that of both classes, participating in class discussions and group projects. The extended time spent together and participating in collaborative activities forms a community-like atmosphere among students.

This sense of community is the impetus that leads students to civic action. Students in Learning Communities exhibit commitment and interest in civic engagement, applying concepts in the world around them by completing projects that benefit the community.

LEARNING RESOURCES CENTER (LRC)

The Learning Resources Centers are located on the Central Park, Preston Ridge, and Spring Creek campuses. Each LRC consists of a library and a Media Technology Services Center. The LRCs provide access to books, periodicals, videos, computers, electronic databases, the World Wide Web, and a knowledgeable staff to assist students and community residents.

ALTERNATIVE LEARNING CENTERS

The Alternative Learning Centers (ALC) provide alternatives to traditional classroom learning and instruction through the innovative use of technology. The ALCs house computer laboratories and classrooms, as well as specialized learning labs such as the Science Place.

The ALC can assist any discipline in utilizing technology to augment traditional classroom instruction. Currently, English, foreign language, and humanities classes are taught using the computer labs. The Science Place provides students with models for the study of anatomy and physiology.

DISTANCE LEARNING

In an effort to accommodate the wide array of student schedules and learning styles, CCCCD provides several types of distance learning credit courses. These courses are offered through various methods of delivery: web-based, web-assisted, instructional cable television, two-way interactive video between CCCCD campuses, and video checkout.

Distance learning courses may apply toward associate degree requirements. Many fit into certificate program requirements and the majority fulfill requirements for baccalaureate degrees. Students are encouraged to visit with an academic advisor to verify that a specific distance learning course will transfer into their designated college or university's bachelor's degree program.

Registration for a distance learning course is the same as for any other course, however, for some courses, students will be required to attend a mandatory on-campus orientation. Consult the current *CCCCD Schedule of Classes* or <http://online.ccccd.edu> for available distance learning courses.