Registration Now Open for Summer Programs

From art to volleyball, continuing education offers something for everyone.

Get ready for another exciting summer on the Whitewater and Janesville campuses! Continuing Education Services is again hosting more than fifty different residential camps, day-long clinics, and other programs for youth and adults of all ages.

New this year is the Fine Art Camp for high school artists who will immerse themselves in a college-level visual arts experience. Students will choose from ceramics, sculpture, drawing and painting sessions, all led by Art + Design faculty. “Each camper will get the individualized instruction time necessary for their creative development and growth,” says Gregory Porcaro, camp founder and director. “It’s perfect for any aspiring artist, creative thinker or ‘maker’ who likes to create things for others to enjoy or as a means for self-expression.”

On the Rock campus, exciting new summer day programs for youth include Be a YouTuber, Camp Bug Brigade, and Gamer Clinic. These half-day programs tap into the activities kids really love, while helping them build lifelong skills, like problem solving, leadership, and interpersonal communication. “For many of our campers, it’s their first time on a college campus,” Rock County camp director Molly Cook notes. “They have a positive experience and can see themselves as college students one day.” Registration for many of the Rock clinics can be combined for a multi-event discount.

In addition to the many perennial music and athletic camps, returning this year are the Forensics Institute and Growing Writers Camp. I Want to be a Teacher Camp is back for its third summer, and this year will offer limited scholarships for underrepresented students with financial need. All camps are led by dedicated UW-Whitewater faculty and staff, each committed to helping young people fine-tune their craft and explore future possibilities.

Register risk free today. Reserve your spot with no deposit down. We will let you know by May 15 if we cancel any summer camp due to COVID-19. Visit our website for updates and more information on summer favorites, like College for Kids, Grandchildren’s University and much more!
Adult Student Spotlight: Kelly Alicea

When Kelly Alicea decided to return to college to earn her bachelor's degree, she thought she would end up in a K-12 classroom, but as her higher education journey comes to a close, it's adult learners like herself that she plans to work with.

Like many returning adult students, Kelly took some time away from college before completing her undergraduate program. She worked in the health information technology field for a while, then stayed at home with her family while her husband was on active duty. As a veteran herself, she knew when the time came to return to school, the university system was the best place to take full advantage of her military benefits. “I took some online classes through a private school, but knew I needed a brick-and-mortar experience,” Alicea says. “The transition to UW-W was easy. There’s really good support systems for military and returning adult students here.”

During her time at UW-W, Kelly’s path has taken some twists and turns. She began her studies in the College of Education and Professional Studies, but eventually found her home as a liberal studies major, double minoring in Spanish and teaching English for adults. She is currently completing her student teaching at Gateway Technical College, where she leads classes for adult students seeking to improve their English skills enough to pass entrance and certification exams. She would love to continue with work like this after she graduates in May.
Kelly has also been able to work on community-impacting research projects while an undergrad. She had the opportunity to work on a locally-published social studies book called Discover Waukesha with Professor Pilar Melero (Languages & Literatures). As an undergraduate student, this project gave Kelly the opportunity to be a contributing writer. She notes, “I learned a lot about what goes into publishing and Dr. Melero worked with me to allow this project to fit into my schedule and make it meaningful to my life.” Kelly is currently finishing up research with S-A Welch (Communication), Susan Huss-Lederman (Languages & Literatures) and Jenna Cushing-Leubner (Curriculum & Instruction) that focuses on ESL learners at UW-W. “We collected nine narrative interviews with ESL learners and are finding themes to report on. This data will give the University valuable baseline data on the resources and needs of a growing population of students.”

Kelly’s dedication to her education has not gone unnoticed. She is a past recipient of the Outstanding Adult Student Award and Ernella Hunziker Scholarship for Adult Women Students. As she reflects on her time at UW-Whitewater, Kelly offers advice to others considering going back to school or those who are in the middle of their programs now. “Follow your instincts. If it feels like a passion for you, see a master advisor to make it work. UW-W has great master advisors and they’ll help you get on the fastest path.” She also suggests that adult students draw from their life experience to make coursework relevant. “I learned to stop trying to put things into the classroom box. I’m involved in Girl Scouts, my church and many other things in the community. When I drew upon those experiences for my coursework, the assignments became much more meaningful for me.”

Visit our website to learn more about resources and support services for returning adult students.
Early Childhood Educators to Travel to Ecuador

Members of the UW-W Early Childhood Education (ECE) team traveled to Cuenca Ecuador in November 2019. They had the opportunity to connect with the Centers for InterAmerican Studies (CEDEI) who sponsors the international student teaching program in Ecuador. UW-Whitewater students have the opportunity to study in Ecuador for 9 weeks during their final semester student teaching. During the visit, the team was able to visit the six UW-W early childhood student teachers currently living in Cuenca and observe them in their student teaching classrooms. The ECE team also met with Ecuadorian teachers and toured a public school. This shared travel experience has allowed the ECE team to think creatively about the student teaching opportunities, conduct research, and foster ongoing relationships. One team member, Dr. Naomi Rahn, developed a course project that allowed UW-W students to develop educational materials for the partner school in Ecuador. The team plans to share their findings at a future UW-Whitewater Early Childhood Conference.
From left to right ECE team members: Lucy Heimer, Kristen Linzmeier, Carmen Rivers, Brooke Winchell, Naomi Rahn and Anne Tillett
News and Upcoming Events:

Summer session classes help students stay on track, graduate sooner, and improve their GPA
in under twelve weeks. Classes offered in most academic areas and in many delivery formats, including travel study courses to Yellowstone National Park. Registration now open.

Did you know lectures in the Fairhaven Lecture Series are recorded and available for viewing anytime on our website? While you’re staying safe at home, check out lectures on women’s suffrage, forgotten Wisconsin authors, and Mormonism in America. These are just a few of more than a hundred videos of lectures given by UW-Whitewater faculty. Check out more titles at our website.

We’re serving up round three of Beer Matters, UW-Whitewater’s free online class with meet ups! This MOOC (massive open online class) returns in September with some new course content and new meet up opportunities, along with familiar lessons and favorite brewing spots. Join our mailing list to get updates on registration. Cheers!
Are you anxious? Bored? Or thinking about career plans after this time of self-distancing? We can help! Use your extra time to engage your mind, tap into your creativity, or learn a new skill with our online classes. Hundreds of titles, including meditation, digital scrapbooking, and start your own online business, are available online with monthly start dates. These flexible, affordable classes are a great way to spend time while at home. Next start date is April 15.

UW-Whitewater cares deeply about the health and safety of our community. A dedicated webpage has been created to share information and resources for everyone. Stay informed, stay home and stay safe!