



Adjunct Faculty Academic Calendar

September:

- 2-3 Labor Day Recess
- 4 Classes Resume

November:

- 27 Thanksgiving Recess Begins

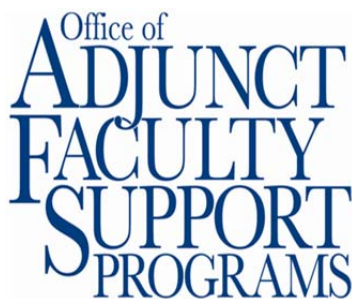
December:

- 2 Classes Resume
- 7 Last Day of Class
- 9-14 Final Exams
- 13 Commencement
- 18 Grades Due by Noon

September Workshops

(register at: svsu.edu/workshops)

- 6 VSpace Introduction
1:00 – 2:30 pm
C-147
- 9 VSpace Introduction
10:00 – 11:30 am
C-147
- 20 What Works for First Year Students?
Noon – 1:30 pm
SE-203
- 21 Course Design: Part I
9:00 am – 11:00 am
Emeriti Room
- 27 Learn Over Lunch:
Brainstorming Ways to Help
First Year Students Succeed
12:00 – 1:00 pm
SE-201
- 28 Downloading eBooks
9:00 – 10:00 am
Z-111



Higher Learning Commission

SVSU Working Toward HLC Re-Accreditation

The 2013-14 academic year is a big one for SVSU. Not only is SVSU celebrating its 50th anniversary, but the university is preparing for a re-accreditation visit from the Higher Learning Commission (HLC) of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools (NCA). The NCA is a regional accrediting agency authorized by the U.S. Department of Education. The visit, which takes place on April 7-9, 2014, is the culmination of a three-year process that began in 2011 and has involved dozens of people on the SVSU campus.

Accreditation from the HLC focuses on overall institutional quality and is important to all of the university's stakeholders including students, full-time and adjunct faculty, staff, administrators, trustees, and community members. As a measure of quality, the HLC accreditation provides evidence of institutional integrity and allows SVSU credits to transfer elsewhere, as well as indicating the strength of SVSU graduates. It also aids in recruiting faculty and staff.

Roughly 80 percent of SVSU students receive financial aid, and accreditation from the HLC will allow SVSU to continue to award federally-backed financial aid. It permits SVSU and individual full-time faculty, students and staff to apply for federal and state grants and programs.

Currently, several committees and key SVSU stakeholders are working collaboratively in producing a "self-study" report and an archive of evidence to support the report's findings. According to Associate Provost Mark H. Peretz, who serves as the Accreditation Liaison Officer for HLC and SVSU, the number of people involved in the accreditation process will increase considerably during the Fall 2013 Semester.

The HLC evaluation address five broad criteria

1. Institutional mission
2. Institutional integrity and ethical/responsible conduct
3. Quality of and support for teaching and learning
4. Efforts to evaluate and improve teaching and learning
5. Institutional resources and planning

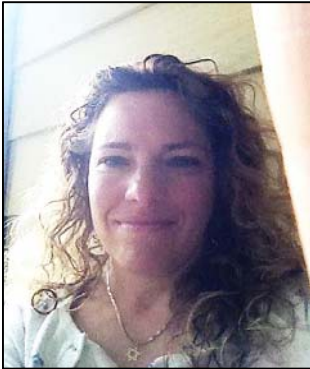
After reading SVSU's "self-study" report, a team of HLC evaluators will visit the SVSU campus in early April 2014. The team's evaluation process will include formal interviews with key stakeholders, as well as informal chats with randomly selected students, faculty and staff. The decision as to whether or not SVSU receives accreditation will likely be made within six months after the visiting team of evaluators makes its recommendations to the HLC Board of Trustees.

The Higher Learning Commission has its headquarters in Chicago, IL and oversees the accreditation of degree-granting colleges and universities in the nineteen states that comprise the North Central Association. Those states include Arkansas, Arizona, Colorado, Iowa, Illinois, Indiana, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, North Dakota, Nebraska, Ohio, Oklahoma, New Mexico, South Dakota, Wisconsin, West Virginia and Wyoming.

Want to Learn More?

- To learn more about SVSU's re-accreditation, contact Dr. Marc H. Peretz at mhp@svsu.edu.
- To learn more about HLC's accreditation process, as well as the organization's history and policies, visit their website at: www.ncahlc.org.

Adjunct Faculty Profile



Kimalee Augustine

*Literature & Composition,
English Dept.*

Years at SVSU: 2

*Undergraduate: Wesleyan
College and Oakland
University*

*Graduate: U of M-Flint, MA
English/Creative Writing*

*Home: An old farmhouse in the
country with my husband,
Mike, and our three dogs.*

*In the Loop: What brings you
back to SVSU to teach?*

*Kimalee Augustine: I love
having the opportunity to sit
down and discuss books that I
care about with young people.*

*ITL: Any advice for new
adjunct faculty members?*

*KA: Get to know the wonderful
staff in the Office of Adjunct
Faculty Support Programs.*

*ITL: How do you keep
students in your classroom
focused?*

*KA: I encourage students in
my classroom to engage in
discussion and respectful
debate.*

*ITL: What is your favorite
piece of literature to teach?*

*KA: Ernest Hemingway's *The
Sun Also Rises*.*

*ITL: How would you finish this
sentence? "A good teaching
day at SVSU is"*

*KA: A good teaching day at
SVSU is when my students
become so engaged with a
text that I spend more time
moderating the discussion
than I do lecturing.*

Zahnow Library

Library Now Offers In-Person Research Support in Regional Ed and HHS Buildings

Starting Monday, September 29th, through Wednesday, December 4th, from 3-6 pm, SVSU students and faculty in the Regional Education Center and the Health & Human Services buildings can take advantage of on-site research support offered by Zahnow Reference Services.

Reference librarians will be available to assist students and faculty with locating information from over 45,000 online journals and 150,000+ electronic books covering many disciplines.

Zahnow Reference librarians will be in the REC OTT microcomputer lab (2nd

floor) and the Health & Human Services building, first floor lobby.

In-person research support at the Reference Desk in Zahnow Library, chat, text and email continue to be available during regular library hours. In addition, appointments to meet with a librarian can be requested by calling the Reference desk at 989-964-4242 or

online by following this link: http://librarysubjectguides.svsu.edu/survey.php?survey_id=952.

For questions or comments, please contact Anita Dey, Head, Reference Services: call 989.964.7094, or e-mail adey@svsu.edu.

Sign Up for Faculty Learning Community

Adjunct faculty members have until Friday, Sept. 20, to sign up for a Faculty Learning Community (FLC) led by Ann Coburn-Collins.

To be eligible, adjunct faculty must teach first year students (080 and 100 level courses) and have taught at SVSU for at least two semesters.

FLC participants will meet monthly during the Fall 2013 and Winter 2014 semesters and will attend the Fall Lilley Conference in Traverse City, October 17-20. All expenses will be paid by the Office of Adjunct Faculty Support programs.

Participants will be asked to administer three different innovative teaching projects during the next two semesters.

Applications materials include a Faculty Development Plan and Teaching Philosophy Statement. Application materials must be submitted to the Office of Adjunct Faculty Support Programs by Friday, Sept. 20.

For more information, contact the Office of Adjunct Faculty Support Programs. Call 989-964-4050; Email, adjunct@svsu.edu. Or, better yet, stop by the office in Science East 201.

Tips on Teaching Diverse First-Year Students

First-year students at Saginaw Valley State University are diverse in a number of ways. For instance, their academic backgrounds vary, their academic and vocational interests vary, they come from different regions of the United States as well as many other countries, and they come from a variety of racial and socioeconomic backgrounds. How can you effectively teach diverse groups of students and leverage diversity to your advantage?

Barbara Gross Davis, author of *Tools for Teaching*, says, "There are no universal rules for responding to ethnic, gender and cultural diversity in

the classroom. The most important principle is being sensitive. Here are some tips Davis offers:

- Recognize your own stereotypes
 - Treat each student as an individual
 - Rectify language or case examples that exclude or demean any groups
 - Whenever possible, select text and readings whose language is gender-neutral and free of stereotypes
 - Do not assume that all students will recognize cultural, literary or historical references familiar to you.
- (Source: Center for Teaching, Vanderbilt University. <http://cft.vanderbilt.edu/teaching-guides/interactions/diversity/>)