

ACADEMIC SUCCESS

University Library

➤ The library at WCU has ample [resources for distance students](#). Access [databases](#), academic journals, and [course reserves](#) from anywhere. Utilize this [Public Policy & Administration Research Guide](#) for specific academic research resources related to public policy and administration disciplines. [Chat with a Librarian Online](#) for help in any research or library matter.

The Writing Center

➤ The writing center provides free writing tutoring, workshops, and resources to the entire university community. [Schedule a Virtual Appointment](#) for one-on-one assistance or check out the center's [Writing Style & Citation Guide](#) for general writing guidance.

Free Online Tutoring via SmartThinking

➤ [SmartThinking](#) is a free online tutoring platform for WCU students. Tutoring is available 24/7 for topics including accounting, finance, economics, statistics, writing and math.

Office of the Registrar

➤ The Office of the Registrar makes signing up for classes and getting your degree simple. Check out the following helpful links:

- [How to Add a course](#)
- [How to Drop a course](#)
- [Sign up for a Waitlist](#)
- [Update Intended Credit Load](#)
- [Apply for Graduation](#)
- [Order Official Transcripts](#)
- [FERPA \(Student Privacy\) Policy \(requesting review of education records\)](#)
- [Residency \(applying for residency reclassification\)](#)

➤ Contact: registrar@wcupa.edu

The Graduate School

Below is a list of [Important Forms for Graduate Students](#):

- Registration and Enrollment
 - [Degree Candidacy Application](#)
 - [Graduate Transfer Credit Form](#)
 - [Leave of Absence Form](#)
 - [Graduate Term or University Withdrawal Request Form](#)
 - [Add Graduate Certificate Request](#)
 - [Understanding the Importance of Intended Credit Load](#)
 - [Enrollment Verification \(through mywcupa.edu\)](#)
- Transfer of Credit
 - [Transfer of Graduate Credit Request Form](#)
 - [Transfer of Graduate Credit Pre- Approval Form](#)
- Contact: GradSchool@wcupa.edu

Graduate Student Association

- [The Graduate Student Association \(GSA\)](#) is a student governing body for graduate students that promotes the well-being of graduate students through educational, professional and social events at West Chester University.
- Contact: gsa@wcupa.edu

Ram Connect

- Ram Connect provides a full listing of clubs and organizations you can get involved with as a student. [Login to Ram Connect](#) with your West Chester University credentials. There are a variety of different student organizations specifically for graduate students listed [here](#).
- Contact: ramconnect@wcupa.edu

Information Services & Technology

- Visit the virtual [Information Services and Technology Help Desk](#) for help with any technical issue. The Help Desk is the central point of contact for all technology-related hardware, software, and system support such as Office 365, myWCU and D2L at West Chester University
- Contact: helpdesk@wcupa.edu

Free Software Downloads for Students

- All WCU students are entitled to [Free Office365 Applications](#) including Microsoft Word, Excel, PowerPoint and OneDrive. Other free software applications include Adobe Acrobat Reader, Chrome Web Browser, Mozilla Firefox, and various antivirus and anti-spyware programs.

Ram Cloud

- [RamCloud](#) allows secure access to applications for faculty and students to learn and work from any location using any device (including mobile devices) whether university owned or personal.

FINANCIAL SUCCESS

Bursar's Office

- West Chester University is proud of its affordability. Calculate your financial responsibility using the [Tuition Calculator](#). Make payments through [QuickPay](#). Take advantage of [payment plans](#) through the Bursar's office where you can pay tuition and fees through regularly scheduled payments. If your tuition is being paid by your employer, you can defer tuition payments until completion of the semester through the [Employer Reimbursement Plan](#).
- Contact: bursar@wcupa.edu.

Financial Aid Office

- To apply for Federal Student Aid, you must complete the [FAFSA Application](#). Review the university's [Financial Aid Checklist](#) for more information on what to expect during the application process. Typically, graduate students may borrow up to a maximum of \$20,500 of Federal Direct Unsubsidized Loans per school year.
- There are many [scholarships](#) available to graduate students through the university and external sources to help fund your application. A list of available scholarships funded by the university can be found [here](#). [Sallie Mae](#) also provides a service for graduate students to search for scholarships.
- Contact: Finaid@wcupa.edu

Graduate Assistantships

- Working as a Graduate Assistant allows you to gain valuable work experience while getting a bi-weekly stipend and a full tuition waiver. Review these [frequently asked questions](#) for more information regarding what being a Graduate Assistant entails. You can find Graduate Assistant positions listed on [Handshake](#). Be sure to check Handshake regularly as new position openings are added periodically throughout the academic year.
- Contact: gradassistantships@wcupa.edu

Office for Research and Sponsored Programs

- The [Office for Research and Sponsored Programs](#) provides support for identifying research grants and funding to help you fund your academic goals outside of the classroom.
- Contact: research@wcupa.edu

PROFESSIONAL SUCCESS Career Development Center

- Make an appointment at the [Career Development Center](#) to get help crafting the perfect [resume](#), become an expert at [interviewing](#), or to get help [finding a job or internship](#). The Career Development Center is your first stop on the road to professional success!
- Contact: cdc@wcupa.edu

Handshake

- Create your free [Handshake](#) account for to schedule an appointment with career development center staff, apply for jobs and internships, and check out career event information. All [Career Development Center](#) resources, as well as the Handshake platform, are available to you as both a student and a graduate.

LinkedIn Learning

- [LinkedIn Learning with Lynda.com](#) content is an industry leader in online training, with a digital library of over 180,000 videos, covering a wide range of technical, business, software, and creative topics. Certifications and new skills make great additions to your resume. West Chester University faculty, staff and currently enrolled students have FREE, unlimited access.
- Contact: linkedinlearning@wcupa.edu

Ram Nation

- Create your free Ram Nation student account to network with WCUPA alumni for mentoring, networking, and professional opportunities. When you are a proud Ram alumnus, you can also use this service to connect with your former classmates and help future Golden Rams reach their full potential.
- Contact: ramnation@wcupa.edu

PERSONAL SUCCESS

Center for International Students

- The [Center for International Students](#) leads the WCU community of educators in developing and preparing students to become globally aware and engaged members of a diverse society. It also serves as a resource center and community for international students and those seeking international experiences.
- Contact: International@wcupa.edu

Center for Women and Gender Equity

- The [Center for Women & Gender Equity \(CWGE\)](#) promotes a campus culture and climate that supports principles of social justice, equity, inclusion, and community. CWGE advocates for a campus community that values the safety, equality, and intellectual advancement of women and historically marginalized groups at West Chester University.
- Contact: cwge@wcupa.edu

Center for Trans and Queer Advocacy

- The mission of the [Center for Trans and Queer Advocacy](#) is to create an environment where the intersectional experiences of trans and queer people are supported, celebrated, validated, and affirmed. The center provides resources and programming for members of the LGBTQIA+ community and their allies.
- Contact: TransandQueer@wcupa.edu

Dowdy Multicultural Center

- The [Lawrence A. Dowdy Multicultural Center's](#) mission is to help provide and maintain a supportive environment that promotes the academic achievement and personal development of more than 3,700 African American, Latino/a, Asian-American, and Native American Indian students at the University.
- Contact: multiculture@wcupa.edu

Service Learning & Volunteer Programs

- The [Center for Civic Engagement & Social Impact](#) provides many virtual and remote volunteer opportunities available for distance learners.

Office of Services for Students with Disabilities

- Visit the [Office of Services for Students with Disabilities \(OSSD\)](#) website or office to learn how to receive classroom accommodations, access forms, guidelines, and other student resources.
- Contact: ossd@wcupa.edu

Office for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

- The [Office for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion](#) provides leadership and expertise to West Chester University to advance its commitment to the principles of inclusivity, service, and academic excellence. Through programmatic and educational initiatives, collaborative partnerships, and outreach they cultivate an environment that welcomes all.

Frederick Douglass Institute

- The mission of the [Frederick Douglass Institute](#) is to maintain the legacy of the great abolitionist, Frederick Douglass through the highest quality of academic programming that promotes excellence in scholarship, teaching, and institutional advancement.
- Contact: fdouglass@wcupa.edu

Greg and Sandra Weisenstein Veterans Center

- WCU is designated as a Military Friendly School. Any Veteran, Any Spouse or Dependent of a Veteran is eligible to participate in and utilize WCU's [Veterans Center](#) resources whether or not they are utilizing education benefits under the GI Bill®.
- Veterans can help fund their education through [GI Bill Benefits](#) or the [Federal Tuition Assistance Program](#).
- Contact: veteranscenter@wcupa.edu

The Counseling Center

- The [Counseling Center's](#) goal is to promote optimal health through the provision of quality mental health services for all currently enrolled West Chester University students. The Counseling Center offers free counseling for students and helps them find outside resources.
- Contact: wcucc@wcupa.edu

EXTERNAL RESOURCES

- [Purdue Owl: MLA Style Citation Guide](#)
- [Purdue Owl: APA Style Citation Guide](#)
- [Grammarly: Free Spelling and Grammar Check](#)
- [BibMe: Free Bibliography Creator](#)