

BC3 to offer 170 summer courses in 5 sessions

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(Butler, PA) Butler County Community College will offer a selection of 170 summer courses over five sessions that will provide BC3 and visiting students a chance to earn credits and save costs by attending the college with the most affordable tuition among 43 regional institutions, according to the U.S. Department of Education.

BC3 will hold three summer sessions – in traditional classroom, online and hybrid formats and lasting four, 12 and eight weeks – and two five-week online Fast Track sessions.

Nearly 340 visiting students and 920 BC3 students last summer attended at least one of BC3's three summer sessions or two Fast Track sessions, according to Becky Smith, BC3's associate director of records and registration.

Among them, visiting student Shawn Anderson, 48, of New Castle, who, rather than waiting for his private college in the fall of 2018 to offer the courses he needed to earn a bachelor's degree, said he was recommended by his academic adviser to pursue the classes at BC3.

"She said I could take a summer class with BC3 and they would transfer the credits in," said Anderson, who graduated in August and is pursuing a master's degree in education online from The Pennsylvania State University.

"I would have probably just gone to BC3"

BC3's affordability, he said, "was probably the biggest factor for me choosing BC3. Hindsight being 20/20, I would have probably just gone to BC3 for my degree completely.

"BC3 has a site right here in New Castle. It would have worked out so much better for me. Knowing what I know now, it would be a no-brainer."

"There are myriad advantages to BC3 and guest students attending summer sessions at BC3," said Dr. Belinda Richardson, BC3's vice president for academic affairs. "To name a few, doing so may enable them to stay on track for graduation or get ahead. For guest students, attending BC3 in the summer saves money. Finally, BC3 has been named the No. 1 community college in Pennsylvania for three consecutive rankings. What could be better than that?"

BC3 has been selected as the top community college in Pennsylvania in three Schools.com rankings in a row. BC3's credits transfer to public, private and online institutions.

Session 1, with its traditional classroom format, is scheduled from May 13 to June 6 and will include a selection of 31 courses in subjects such as ethics, film analysis and speech.

In addition to BC3's main campus, Session 1 courses will be held at BC3 @ Armstrong in Ford City; BC3 @ Brockway in Brockway, BC3 @ Cranberry in Cranberry Township; BC3 @ Lawrence Crossing in New Castle; and BC3 @ LindenPointe in Hermitage.

Session 2, scheduled from May 13 to July 30, includes 60 courses in traditional classroom settings on BC3's main campus, BC3 @ Brockway and BC3 @ Cranberry, and in online and hybrid formats. Among the selection of classes being offered are those in general microbiology, introduction to fiction and principles of management.

Among the 61 courses offered in traditional classroom settings in Session 3, set for June 10 to Aug. 1, are those in microeconomics, physics I and principles of sociology. Session 3 courses will be held on BC3's main campus, at its additional locations and in online and hybrid formats.

Nine online courses are set for Fast Track 1, to be held from May 13 to June 17; and nine for Fast Track 2, set for June 24 to July 29. Subjects include introduction to art, general psychology, physical wellness, research writing, 20th century world history and world geography.

For more information, visit bc3.edu/summer.