
Professional and Continuing Education



Professional and Continuing Education is committed to serving the needs of those students who choose to pursue a degree on a part-time basis during evening hours or in the summer. Any person who has graduated from high school or holds a Certificate of General Education Development (GED) is entitled to enroll in undergraduate courses offered through Professional and Continuing Education.

All credit courses offered are University of Massachusetts Dartmouth courses, and the grades earned are reflected in the student's grade point average at the university. Students may enroll in one course, a number of courses, or a program leading to a Bachelor's degree.

In addition, during each term, courses are offered for personal or professional development which carry no academic credit, and a few courses for professional certification which, at their completion, award Professional Development Points (PDP's).

Many students who attend the university through Professional and Continuing Education work full time, have family responsibilities, and have a limited amount of time available to study and attend courses. These students may have attended a community college, may have started their coursework at the university directly after high school, or may have had years elapse between their high school and university careers. All are welcome and are encouraged as they achieve each level of their education. Whether students register for courses each Fall term, each Spring term, or continue through many terms, each is advised individually while progressing toward personal academic goals.

This learning environment provides the opportunity for students, including those who are unsure of their ability to do university work, to explore academic courses, to return to school at a pace of their own choosing, to continue their education while enrolled in a degree program at another college or university, or to explore their personal interests.

Professional and Continuing Education offers opportunities at the main campus in North Dartmouth, as well as alternative learning sites at the Neighborhood College in New Bedford, the Professional and Continuing Education Center in Fall River, and Cape Cod Community College. The Neighborhood College is an outreach facility that serves the community with adult and youth educational programs, job training, and skills development opportunities. The Professional and Continuing Education Center in Fall River offers undergraduate, graduate, and professional training in the areas of business, management, allied health, education, criminal justice, and nursing. Through a partnership with Cape Cod Community College, Professional and Continuing Education offers a Two-Plus-Two Program in Humanities/Social Sciences.

Phone: 508 999-8071

Degree Candidacy

A student may earn 30 credits (the equivalent of 10 3-credit courses) while applying for degree candidacy and/or declaring a major. Anyone who has completed 30 credits with a minimum grade point average of 2.000 (the equivalent of a C average) is eligible to be accepted into a University of Massachusetts Dartmouth degree program leading to a Bachelor's degree in one of the majors offered through Professional and Continuing Education.

When a student is accepted into a degree program, those courses that were successfully completed and which fulfill the requirements of the program will count toward graduation. All courses taken will appear on the student's transcript and will be calculated into the student's grade point average.

Undergraduate Degree Programs

At present, the UMass Dartmouth's majors in the following disciplines are available through Professional and Continuing Education:

College of Arts & Sciences

Degree Completion
English/Literature
English/Writing and Communications
Humanities and Social Sciences
Political Science
Psychology*
Sociology
Sociology/Criminal Justice

Charlton College of Business

Accounting
Management

at Cape Cod Community College

Humanities and Social Sciences
UMass Dartmouth offers the junior and senior years to students who already have at least 45 completed college credits

For access to other majors, DCE students apply for admission through the Office of Undergraduate Admissions.

Tuition and Fees

Students who register through Professional

* Some Psychology courses required for graduation, especially upper-division ones, may not be conveniently available during evening hours; in some cases, evening students with a pressing need to graduate may need to take one or more courses during the day.

and Continuing Education for credit-bearing courses pay charges based on the Fee Schedule for that Division. Students are charged a basic fee per academic credit and additional service fees. The listing of specific charges is available from the Office of Professional and Continuing Education. Tuition and fees are subject to change at the discretion of the governing authorities of the university.

Academic Counseling and Financial Aid

A staff of experienced professionals is available Monday through Thursday evenings to assist students in planning programs suitable to educational and career objectives. Work experience and other learning experiences may, in some instances, be translated into academic credit (see below).

The full range of financial aid programs is available to the Continuing Education student: grants, low interest educational loans and scholarships. Individuals are strongly encouraged to explore their eligibility for these programs.

Credit for Non-Traditional Prior Learning

Non-traditional prior learning is an innovative program that enables participants to gain academic credit based on previous learning experiences. It is designed for the returning adult student who would like to earn credits toward a degree, and is available to degree-seeking students. An individual's college-level skills and knowledge that have derived from prior learning or work experience will be documented during a one-semester workshop. Evaluation for credit of the documented learning experience will be completed at the end of each academic year. Prior learning is only available to Arts and Science candidates.

Professional and Continuing Education Center in Fall River

The UMass Dartmouth Professional and Continuing Education Center offers undergraduate, graduate, and professional training in Fall River. Classes are offered in day and evening sessions throughout the week and are open to degree candidates and other adults interested in taking university level courses, seminars, and workshops. Courses are offered at the graduate and undergraduate levels and professional program areas, including

Business
Degree Completion Program
Allied Health
Criminal Justice

Nursing including Certificate Program
Management
Education
Tech Academy Courses
Non-Credit Courses

For more details or for academic advising questions, please contact Traci Almeida talmeida@umassd.edu or David Pedro dpedro@umassd.edu or call 508-678-3636. Office hours are Monday-Thursday 9 am. to 7 pm and Friday 9 am to 5 pm.

Special Programs and Learning Opportunities

The Tech Academy at UMass Dartmouth is offered at the Professional and Continuing Education Center. This program is designed to "Train the Tech" with increased instructor-led lecture/lab time; additional hands-on, customized projects; bootcamps and exam reviews; VUE testing center availability; and a student resource lab center available for unlimited lab time. Please call 508-678-3636 for further information.

Professional and Continuing Education also offers intensive institutes in the arts and a variety of opportunities to study abroad. Month long summer study abroad programs are designed to immerse the student in the culture of a country through study of history, art history, anthropology, or art.

Student Government

The Continuing Education Student Government (CESG) is the official representative voice of part-time students. CESG is instrumental in helping UMass Dartmouth respond to the special needs of Continuing Education students.

Contacts

General Information
508 999-8071
508 678-3636

Advising Appointments
508 999-9202

Advising, College of Arts & Science
508 999-9158

Advising, Charlton College of Business
508 999-8041

Office Hours
Monday - Thursday 8:00 am — 7:00 pm
Friday 8:00 am — 5:00 pm

www.umassd.edu/dce