CAMPUS SERVICES

Information Services

The Information Services Division provides computing, information, and network services to the entire campus community. A campus-wide network for data, voice, and video communication provides phones, data, and video connectivity for students, faculty, and staff. In addition to supporting many college and department-specific student computing labs, the Academic Computing Center on the ground floor of Anderson Hall serves as the focal point for instructional computing activity and manages public student labs totaling more than 200 workstations. The labs, which post their open hours online (http://www.wcupa.edu/infoservices/clientServices/itHelpDesk/), have consultants on duty to assist students. All computers support general-purpose applications such as word processing, spreadsheets, graphics, and database management systems (Microsoft Office suite) plus course-specific software such as SPSS, SAS, Minitab, Mathematica, Quark, and others. The labs also provide access to printers, digitizers, and optical scanners. Student laboratory facilities are also located in Sykes Student Union.

Information Services provides many resources and services to promote the use of technology in the teaching and learning environment. More than 150 classrooms are equipped with presentation technologies. For further information, contact the IT Help Desk at 610-436-3350.

Campus Store

The WCU Campus Store is located on the ground floor of Sykes Student Union. The Campus Store has new and used textbooks for all WCU courses, a growing textbook rental program of new and used titles, and select course offerings including digital textbooks. Textbooks may be purchased in the store or on the store’s website www.wcupa.edu/campusstore (http://www.wcupa.edu/campusstore). For your convenience, we provide in-room delivery for early online textbook orders in August and January. The WCU Campus Store also stocks supplies, course supplies, and a wide selection of reference books, as well as study and teacher aids. WCU Campus Store offers a complete line of official WCU-imprinted clothing and an array of gifts that can be purchased on the store’s website. Greeting cards, snacks, candy, soft and energy drinks, health and beauty aids, electronics, and laundry supplies are also available in the Campus Store. Spirit items for athletic events are available as well. Services offered include special orders for computer software and general interest books (at no extra cost), an onsite Greek wear provider, UPS and USPS shipping services, and daily book buybacks. All major credit cards, Ram Bucks, and personal checks, accompanied by a valid ID, are accepted. The store hours are as follows:

Monday - Thursday, 8 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Friday, 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Saturday, 11 a.m. - 3 p.m.
(hours are subject to change).

For additional convenience, the store offers extended operating hours at the beginning of each semester. For more information call 610-436-BOOK or visit the website at www.wcupa.edu/campusstore (http://www.wcupa.edu/campusstore)/.

For additional clothing and gift options for your family, alumni, parents, and students, please visit our location in the town of West Chester. The Ram Shop, at 134 N. High Street, offers a boutique atmosphere and specialized customer service. Also visit the Ram Shop website at www.wcupramshop.com (https://wcupramshop.com).

Career Development Center

The staff of the Twardowski Career Development Center is committed to supporting graduate student success by providing services that assist with identifying career options, researching and connecting with opportunities (including doctoral or other higher education programs), and developing the skills necessary to have a competitive edge in the job market in order to secure a rewarding position after graduation.

The services for graduate students include individual appointments, workshops, resume and cover letter reviews, mock interviews, career fairs, job postings online, and an on-campus interview program. The center’s website contains links to a variety of job search sites grouped by industry to facilitate an effective online job search.

Twardowski Career Development Center is located in 225 Lawrence Center (second floor) and is open year-round. For additional information, visit the Career Development website (http://wcupa.edu/cdc) or call 610-436-2501 to schedule an appointment.

Multicultural Affairs

The mission of the Office of Multicultural Affairs (http://www.wcupa.edu/multiculturalAffairs) is to provide and maintain a supportive environment that promotes the academic achievement and personal development of multicultural students at the University. This is accomplished by providing a wide range of services, programs, and activities aimed at meeting the educational, social, cultural, and developmental needs of multicultural students. In addition, the office collaborates with other offices, organizations, and departments to improve awareness of and appreciation for racial and cultural diversity for the University community.

As an extension of the office, the Multicultural Center serves as a general gathering place for all students and is also a home-base for the OMA mentoring program, the Board of Governors Scholarship program, and many multicultural student organizations. The Office of Multicultural Affairs (http://www.wcupa.edu/multiculturalAffairs) is located in the Multicultural Center in Room 003 in Sykes Student Union, and can be reached at 610-436-3273.

Sykes Union Building

The Earl F. Sykes Union first opened in 1975 as the community center for West Chester University. A building expansion and major renovations were completed in 1995, providing students with a 102,000 square-foot facility.

The student union, as a facility and an operation, is designed to encourage all members of the campus community to participate in a wide variety of cultural, social, educational, and recreational programs. The multipurpose building features a 350-seat theater, Campus Store, Student Service Center, Multicultural Center, all on the ground floor. The first floor offers a dining area with seating for 350, an outdoor terrace, and a large food servery. Also included on the first floor is a 5,000-square foot multipurpose room designed for dances, concerts, banquets, and lectures, as well as the student union administrative offices, Information Center, and Off-Campus and Commuter Services.

The second floor houses the Student Affairs offices of the Vice President, Assistant Vice President, Fraternity and Sorority Life, Student Leadership and Involvement, LGBTQ+ Services, and Student Conduct. The Student Services, Inc. Business Office and the department of Campus Activities, along with student clubs and organizations, are also located on the second floor.

The third floor Frederick Douglass Lounge Area features a 20-unit computer lab with quiet study and seminar space. Sykes Union also features 20 rooms accommodating groups from 5 to 500 for meetings, programs, and events.

For information concerning Sykes Union please call the Information Center at 610-436-3360/2984.

Women’s Center

The Women’s Center (http://www.wcupa.edu/womensCenter) promotes a campus community that values the safety, equality, and intellectual advancement of women at West Chester University. The Women’s Center serves the diverse needs of WCU women and their male allies by providing

• Confidential support, assistance, and safe space for WCU women in crisis;
• Educational programs that address a wide range of social-justice issues that affect the success, well-being, and empowerment of women worldwide;
• Leadership and volunteer opportunities for women that build confidence and enhance career goals;
• Information and referrals about issues that disproportionately impact women, such as sexual assault, relationship violence, sexual harassment, unplanned pregnancy, and disordered eating; and
• Special events, workshops, and training that promote awareness of the ways in which gender bias intersects with racism, classism, homophobia, and other forms of oppression.

The Women’s Center (http://www.wcupa.edu/womensCenter) is located at 220 Lawrence Center. For more information, visit www.wcupa.edu/womenscenter or call 610-436-2122.

Institute for Women

The Institute for Women was initially designed to serve as the parent organization to represent the interests of women on campus. The institute is an independent body headed by a director and board of directors. Along with the Commission on the Status of Women, Women’s Center, and Women’s Studies Program, the Institute for Women engages in campus activities for the benefit of women students, faculty, and staff.

The institute sponsors the Graduate Grant, Endowed Book Fund, and other activities to enhance the self-esteem and career success of women at the University. The institute prepares periodic reports on the status of women at the University and also secures Charlotte W. Newcombe Scholarship Grants for mature second-career women. The Institute for Women offers an annual grant of $750 to a woman graduate student who is accepted into a master’s degree program at West Chester University. Application and reference forms may be obtained on the Office of Graduate Studies (http://www.wcupa.edu/Grad) website. For more information call Alicia Hahn-Murphy, director, at 610-436-2122 or email aahahn@wcupa.edu. Students can also visit the The Institute for Women (http://www.wcupa.edu/institute/ForWomen) website for more information.

Veterans Affairs

Under the provisions of Title 38, West Chester University is an accredited university for the education of veterans. The University cooperates with the Veterans Administration to see that honorably separated or discharged veterans receive every consideration consistent with either degree or non-degree admission standards.

All veterans, certain dependents of disabled or deceased veterans, and war orphans who wish to obtain educational benefits under the appropriate public laws must register with the Veterans Affairs Office at initial registration. Veterans must renew their registration with this office at the beginning of each subsequent semester and each summer session. The Veterans Administration requires undergraduate students who are veterans to schedule at least 12 semester hours per semester in order to receive full benefits under the GI Bill; and graduate students who are veterans to schedule at least 9 semester hours per semester in order to receive full benefits under the GI Bill.

West Chester University participates in the Yellow Ribbon Program under the Post 9/11 GI Bill. The Post 9/11 GI Bill pays up to the in-state tuition and fees for all students in the program, depending on their qualifying benefit level. For out-of-state students at the 100% benefit level, the University will contribute (and the VA will match) funds to make up the difference between in-state and out-of-state tuition and fees.

West Chester University is compliant with the recent passage of PA Act 11 and HB131 (http://www.legis.state.pa.us/cfdocs/legis/li/uconsCheck.cfm?yr=2015&sessInd=0&act=11) (referred to as the Veterans Access, Choice, and Accountability Act of 2014). The Greg R. and Sandra L. Weisenstein Veterans Center (http://www.wcupa.edu/veteranscenter) is located at 624 South High Street. The Veterans Center provides services and assistance to veterans, service members, and spouse/dependents with their transition to college. Services include but are not limited to Student Veteran Group (SVG) meeting headquarters, a veteran lounge and computer area, the University’s VA educational certifying official, assistance with VA educational benefits, and general VA information.

For information about the Department of Veteran Affairs (VA) benefits programs, assistance in completing the application for benefits, or to submit requests for enrollment certification, contact the Veterans Center (http://www.wcupa.edu/veteranscenter) at 610-436-2862 or email veteranscenter@wcupa.edu.

Veterans’ Residency

West Chester University adheres to the guidelines set forth by the PA Act 11 and HB131 in order to demonstrate compliance with the Veterans Access, Choice, and Accountability Act of 2014. According to WCU policy, your residency status may require you to supply extra documentation to ensure you receive the proper, in-state tuition benefits. Please visit the Registrar’s residency section (http://wcupa.edu/registrar/residencyMilitary.aspx) for further information regarding military personnel.

Campus Recreation

The Department of Campus Recreation offers a variety of recreational activities promoting health, fitness, and wellness. Offices are located in the Student Recreation Center, which opened in 2012, at the corner of North Campus Drive and South New Street.

The Student Recreation Center is the site for several intramural sports and sport club events as well as a venue for open recreation – a time for students to just stop by to play “pick-up” games. Throughout each week, a variety of group fitness classes and fitness programs are offered for all students and members. Additional programs include small group and personal training, rock wall games, and special one-day recreational events.

The building itself features state-of-the-art fitness equipment; an elevated three-lane walking/jogging track; two gyms for basketball, badminton, and volleyball; a multactivity court for indoor soccer, floor/roller/field hockey, basketball, volleyball, and tennis; three fitness studios; two assessment rooms for personal training; racquetball/squash courts; a three-story climbing wall; a cafe; and a social lounge. With more than 100 student employees, the Department of Campus Recreation offers employment opportunities to both undergraduate and graduate students within each program it sponsors.

Additional information can be found by visiting www.wcupa.edu/campusrec/, or by contacting the Department of Campus Recreation at 610-436-2131.