

**WELCOME**  
**GOLDEN RAMS!**



# **NEW STUDENT GRADUATE ORIENTATION**

**WELCOME!**

# CONNECT **WITH US** ON SOCIAL



**@WCUPA\_GRAD**



**WEST CHESTER UNIVERSITY  
GRADUATE SCHOOL**



**@WCUGRAD**

# THE GRADUATE SCHOOL

- **Fall Business hours: Monday-Friday, 8:00a-4:30p**
- **Contact us by calling 610.436.2943 or email [GradSchool@wcupa.edu](mailto:GradSchool@wcupa.edu)**
- **Graduate Catalog: <https://catalog.wcupa.edu/graduate/>**



# IMPORTANT NOTES

- Fall semester begins on August 26, 2024.
- Students can enroll part time or full time with a maximum of 6 years to complete degree. Review the Graduate Catalog for additional policy information.
- D2L is the Learning Management tool at WCU – online orientation is available to all students.
- Students are required to use WCU webmail.
- RamPortal is the WCU Student Information System.



WEST CHESTER UNIVERSITY



**HOW TO NAVIGATE**  
**WCUPA.EDU**



REQUEST  
INFO

VISIT  
CAMPUS

APPLY  
NOW

GIVE  
TODAY

**MENU**



VISIT CAMPUS

APPLY NOW

GIVE TODAY

PRESIDENTIAL  
SEARCH

WEBMAIL

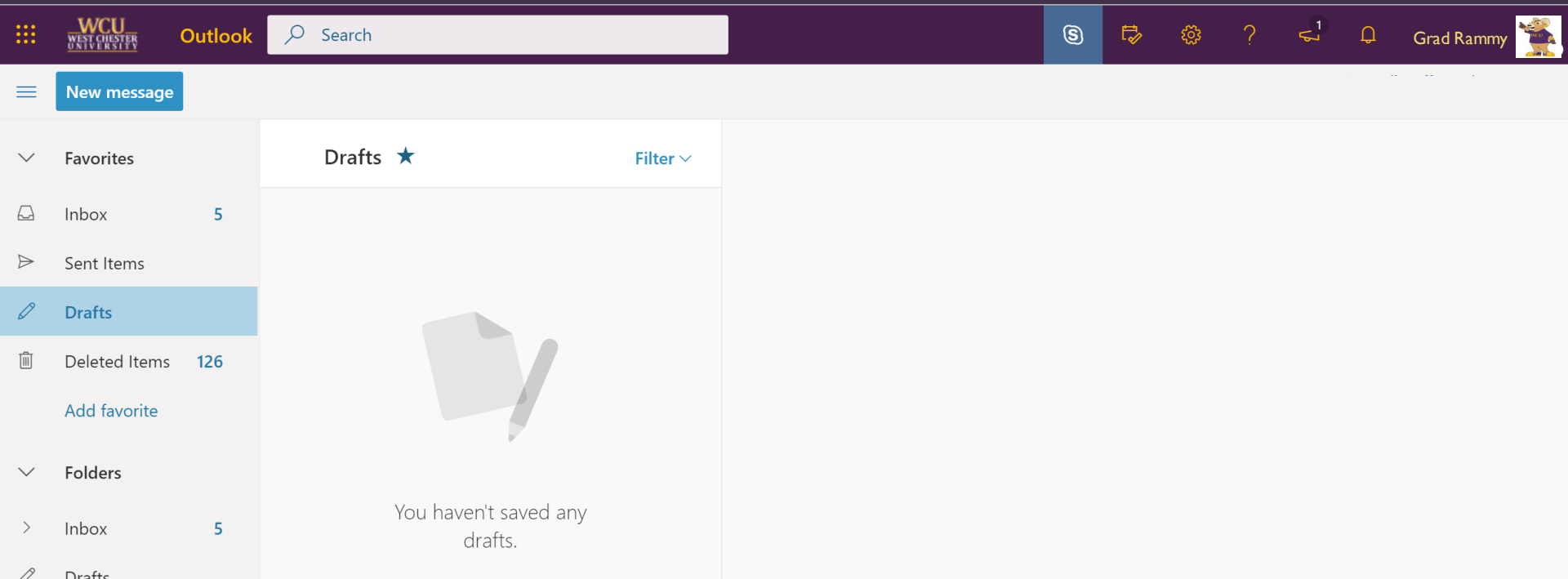
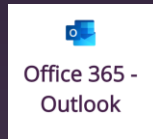
MYWCU

RAMPORTAL

D2L

# WEBMAIL

- All WCU email goes to your student email
- Select:



University Resources ▾ D2L Help ▾

## My Courses

All Training Resources Orientation Department 2019 Spring 2018/2019 Winter >



Navigating Digital Learning



Orientation for Distance Education Students

[View All Courses \(2\)](#)

## Announcements ▾

There are no announcements to display.

## Looking for Help? ▾

[WCU D2L Services](#)

[WCU IT Help Desk](#)

610-436-3350

[D2L Technical Support](#)

[Submit a Ticket](#)

1-866-832-1851

# RAMPORTAL

The screenshot displays the WCU RAM Portal dashboard. At the top left is the WCU West Chester University logo. The dashboard is organized into a grid of white cards with yellow borders and lock icons. The cards include: 'My Personal Information' with a profile icon and 'MY PROFILE INFO' button; 'MyWCU' with a list of tasks and a 'MYWCU APP' button; 'My Holds' showing '0 Holds Preventing Registration' and a 'HOW TO RESOLVE' button; 'My Tasks' showing '0 Tasks' and a 'HOW TO COMPLETE' button; 'Registration Dates' for Fall 2024 with a 'REGISTER' button; 'Register for Fall 24' with a calendar icon and 'REGISTRATION INFO' button; 'Financial Aid' with a wallet icon and 'FINANCIAL INFORMATION' button; 'Advisors (Swipe/Click Arrows)' for Jacqueline S. Hodess, Major Advisor; 'My Personal Links' with a chain icon and 'ADD NEW LINK' button; 'To-Do List' with a checkmark icon and 'ADD NEW TASK' button; and 'Academic History' with a document icon and 'UNOFFICIAL TRANSCRIPT' button. A 'DISCOVER MORE' button is located at the bottom center. The top right corner shows a shopping cart, notification bell, and user profile 'J'.

**My Personal Information**

Click the button to review your personal information profile

**MY PROFILE INFO**

**MyWCU**

Click Link below to access:

- Register for Summer classes
- Review your DPR
- Order your official transcript
- See your transfer credit summary
- View and pay your balance
- Complete your housing application

**MYWCU APP**

**My Holds**

You have

**0**

Holds Preventing Registration

**HOW TO RESOLVE**

**My Tasks**

You have

**0**

Tasks

**HOW TO COMPLETE**

**Registration Dates**

**Fall 2024**

Begin	End
3/29/2024 10:00 AM	12/14/2024 11:59 PM

**REGISTER**

**Register for Fall 24**

Browse the course schedule, plan ahead and add/drop classes when registration opens

**REGISTRATION INFO**

**Financial Aid**

Click button to view award information, check aid status, and complete requirements

**FINANCIAL INFORMATION**

**Advisors (Swipe/Click Arrows)**

**JH**

**Jacqueline S. Hodess**  
Major Advisor

**My Personal Links**

Add quick links  
Create links to your most important pages.

**ADD NEW LINK**

**To-Do List**

Add your tasks  
Create personal tasks and reminders.

**ADD NEW TASK**

**Academic History**

Click button to review the courses you have already completed and transferred into WCU through the unofficial transcript.

**UNOFFICIAL TRANSCRIPT**

**DISCOVER MORE**



# IT/ HELP DESK

The IS&T Help Desk/ResNet is the central point of contact for all technology-related hardware, software, and system support such as Office 365, myWCU and D2L at WCU.

- Phone: [610-436-3350](tel:610-436-3350)
- Option 1: ResNet Central (Student support)
- [helpdesk@wcupa.edu](mailto:helpdesk@wcupa.edu)

# ACADEMIC CALENDAR

Accessible online at the Registrar's webpage:

[www.wcupa.edu/AcademicCalendar](http://www.wcupa.edu/AcademicCalendar)



# WCU CAMPUS LOCATIONS:



- West Chester Campus
  - North Campus: 700 S. High Street
  - South Campus: 855 S. New Street
- The Graduate Center
  - 1160 McDermott Drive, West Chester, PA
- Exton Location
  - West Whiteland Business Center  
930 E Lincoln Hwy Ste 100, Exton, PA 19341
- WCU in Philadelphia
  - Mellon Independent Center at 8th and Market Streets

# WCU IN PHILADELPHIA

## Success Center:

Associate Director: Ben Morgan, [bmorgan@wcupa.edu](mailto:bmorgan@wcupa.edu) or 610-436-3714

Writing Tutoring  
Library Research Assistance  
Resume and Cover Letter Review

## Counseling Services:

Free and confidential  
Virtual appointments available with WCU Counseling Center

## Visit D2L site:

FAQs  
Contact Information  
How-To Guides  
Useful Forms  
Helpful Links

## Additional Services:

IT Support  
Laptop Loan Program  
Food Pantry

Questions? Contact Evelyn Anderson, Associate Director of Student Services:  
[eanderson@wcupa.edu](mailto:eanderson@wcupa.edu) or 610-436-3709



# GRADUATE ASSISTANTSHIPS

- A graduate assistantship is an opportunity to work on campus in a research or service-oriented capacity to gain valuable work experience in higher education or an academic field while earning a stipend and tuition waiver.
- Graduate assistants work **5-20 hours per week** depending on the size of the assistantship. **Stipends range from \$1,250-\$5000 per semester**, and tuition waivers cover 3-12 credits of tuition. Students pay all fees.
- Students **enrolled in graduate degree programs** who are in **good academic standing are eligible**. (Certificate programs are not eligible.)

# HOW TO APPLY FOR A G.A. POSITION

- As a current student, you should contact the graduate coordinator of your degree program to discuss your interest in an assistantship. Academic departments typically hire students from their own programs due to the nature of the work.
- Search for positions on the Twardowski Career Development Center's website: HandShake. These tend to be for student service and administrative offices on campus. (Example: Writing Center, Veterans Center, Office of Sustainability, etc.)
- Apply for as many opportunities that interest you. Persistence pays!
- There is general information about graduate assistantships on our website: [www.wcupa.edu/gradassistantships](http://www.wcupa.edu/gradassistantships). If you have any questions, please e-mail [gradassistantships@wcupa.edu](mailto:gradassistantships@wcupa.edu)

# GRADUATE STUDENT ASSOCIATION



Representative body for graduate students to network, support, and express common concerns for the continued progress and betterment of Graduate Studies at West Chester University.

← JOIN US! →



GSA@WCUPA.EDU



 **RAM  
CONNECT**

[HTTPS://TINYURL.COM/GSARAMCONNECT](https://tinyurl.com/GSARAMCONNECT)



@GSA\_WCUPA









# FINANCIAL AID

- FASFA
- Federal Work Study
- Loans

610-436-2627

[www.wcupa.edu/FinAid](http://www.wcupa.edu/FinAid)

[FINAID@wcupa.edu](mailto:FINAID@wcupa.edu)



# FINANCIAL AID: FEDERAL LOAN PROGRAMS

## Federal Direct Unsubsidized Loan

- Up to \$20,500 per academic year
- Current Interest Rate of 6.08%
- Origination Fee of 1.062%

## Federal Direct Grad PLUS Loan

- Current Interest Rate of 7.08%
- Origination Fee of 4.248%

Source: <https://studentaid.gov/understand-aid/types/loans/interest-rates#rates>



# PRIVATE EDUCATION LOANS

- Visit the WCU Financial Aid Homepage to use the Student Loan Comparison Tool located in the Private Loan section
- The URL is: [https://www.wcupa.edu/\\_services/FIN\\_AID/loans.aspx](https://www.wcupa.edu/_services/FIN_AID/loans.aspx)
- Apply for fall Private Education Loans and/or Grad PLUS loans beginning in May
- Both Grad PLUS and Private Education loans are “credit” based loans

# BURSAR'S OFFICE

Please visit the WCU Bursar's Office homepage to find info about:

- Tuition and Fee costs
- Installment Payment Plans availability
- Due date of your bill
- Direct Deposit
- Employer Reimbursement of Tuition

[www.wcupa.edu/Bursar](http://www.wcupa.edu/Bursar)

610-436-2552

25 University Ave, Suite 50



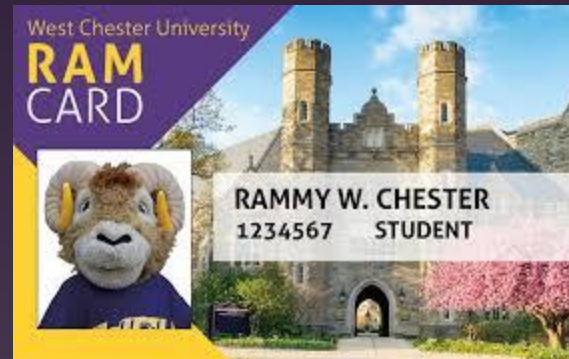




# STUDENT SERVICES / CAMPUS STORE

## Student Services (SSI):

- Ram Card (Student ID)  
[www.RamECard.com](http://www.RamECard.com)  
610-738-0429



## Campus Store:

- Textbooks
- WCU Branded Gear  
[www.WCUCampusStore.com](http://www.WCUCampusStore.com)  
610-436-2242

Located in lower level of Sykes Student Union

# RAM CARD (STUDENT ID)

1. Login using your WCU credentials
2. Select Upload Your Photo & follow instructions for submissions
3. If you are unable to come to campus to pick up your ID card, please select "online" for "campus attending" prompt. ID cards can now be mailed.
4. Follow instructions to make the \$20 online payment. Must be paid before pick up. If ordering it to be mailed, select appropriate option (\$25).



Located in Sykes Student Union, Lower Level



SO  
SCHOOL OF  
BUSINESS & PUBLIC  
MANAGEMENT CENTER  
UNIVERSITY OF  
SOUTH ALABAMA



# WCU POLICE DEPARTMENT

On duty 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year



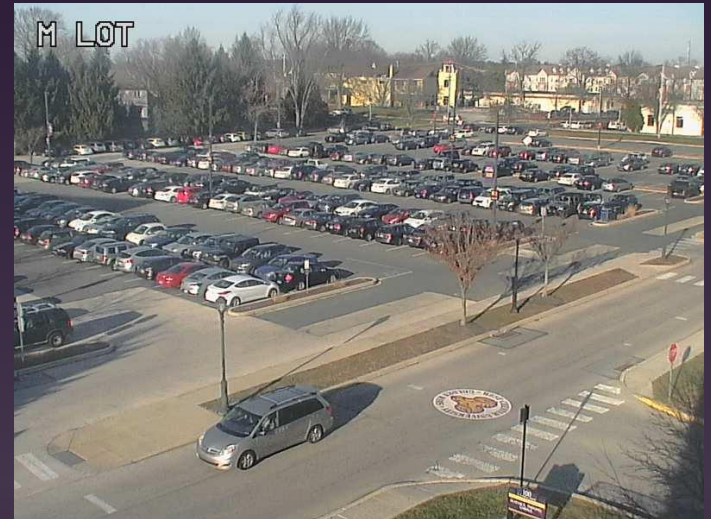
WCU PUBLIC SAFETY: 610-436-3311

# PARKING SERVICES

Parking passes are \$30 per year  
Must order online!  
[www.wcupa.edu/Parking](http://www.wcupa.edu/Parking)

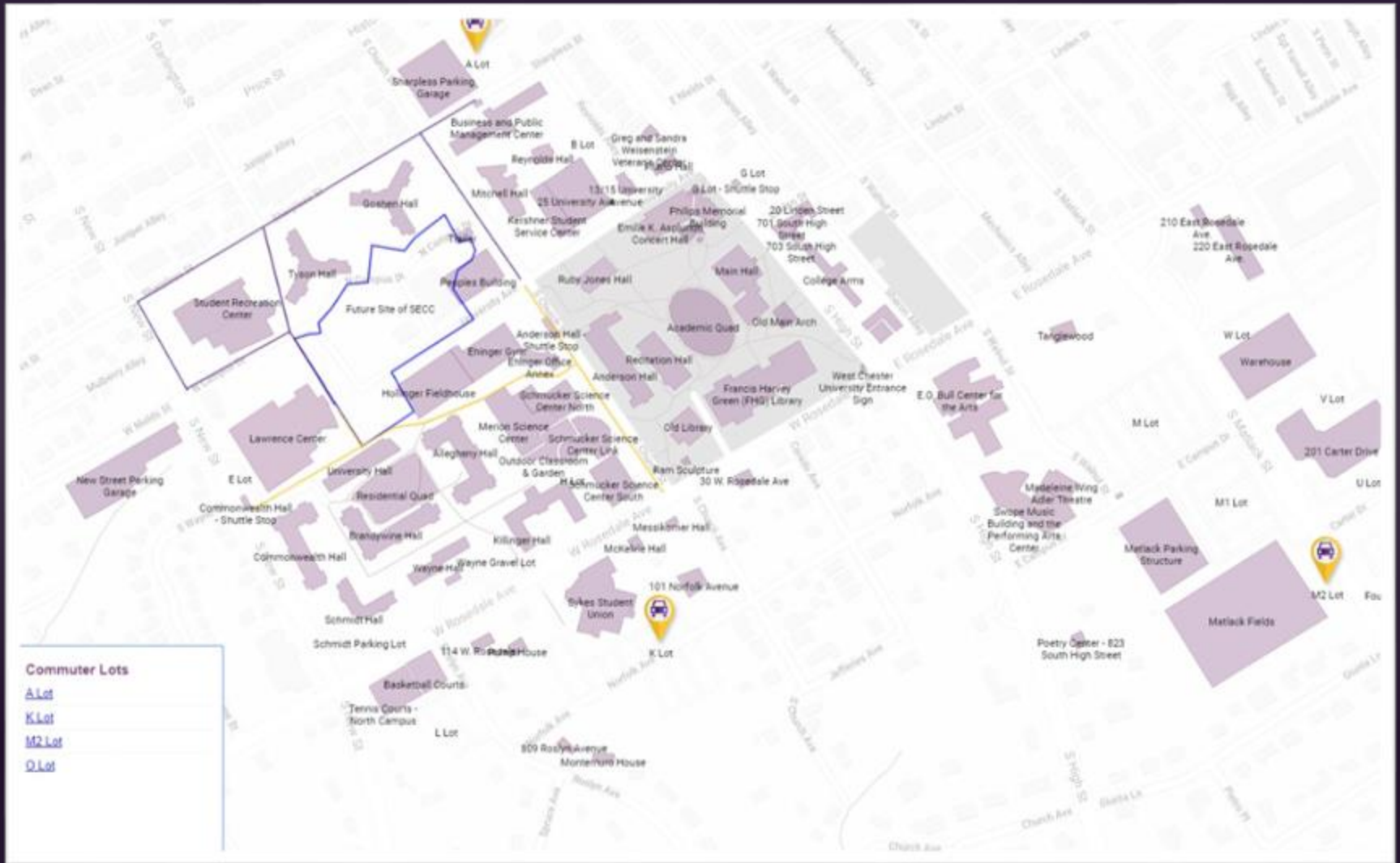
609 S. Church St  
610-436-3345

Open Monday-Friday 8am to 2pm





# PARKING



# TRANSPORTATION & PARKING SERVICES

- North/South Campus Shuttles: [wcupa.edu/shuttle](http://wcupa.edu/shuttle)
- Two SEPTA buses (the 92 and 104)
- SEPTA regional rail & Amtrak
- ChesCo SCCOOT bus from Kennett Square & Oxford
- WCU's Uptown Loop Shuttle bus

## Questions about:

Public Transit ticket & pass sales: [610-436-2955](tel:610-436-2955) (SSI)

WCU's Shuttle Bus: [610-436-1053](tel:610-436-1053) or email [shuttle@wcupa.edu](mailto:shuttle@wcupa.edu)



# WCU ALERT

Receive text notifications for:

- On-campus emergencies
- Delayed openings and university closings due to inclement weather

Sign up at [wcupa.edu/WCUalert](http://wcupa.edu/WCUalert)



# FRANCIS HARVEY GREEN LIBRARY

Holding more than 2.5 million books, journals, dissertations, articles, maps, e-books, albums, films and more!

Find your librarian! Resources for grad students: [library.wcupa.edu/Graduate](http://library.wcupa.edu/Graduate)

[www.wcupa.edu/Library](http://www.wcupa.edu/Library)  
610-430-4400



# CAREER CENTER

Offering comprehensive career development and job search resources

- Resume building
- Cover letter writing
- Interviewing skills
- Advancing a career
- Finding a full/part-time job

225 Lawrence Center

[www.wcupa.edu/CDC](http://www.wcupa.edu/CDC)

610-436-2501

[CDC@wcupa.edu](mailto:CDC@wcupa.edu)







WCU  
WEST CHESTER  
UNIVERSITY



# STUDENT HEALTH SERVICES

- Please call 610-436-2509 for an appointment.
- Telehealth appointments are available.
- A mask will be required to be worn before entering the health center and throughout the entire visit.

[www.wcupa.edu/HealthServices](http://www.wcupa.edu/HealthServices) or 610-436-2509

Commonwealth Hall, Ground Floor

Emergencies: Call 911



# WCU COUNSELING CENTER

The Counseling Center will be offering online counseling services to enrolled students. Students in crisis are able to come to the Counseling Center office. They ask to please call before entering so that health and safety measures can be taken. 610-436-2301 M-F 8:00am-4:00pm

[www.wcupa.edu/CounselingCenter](http://www.wcupa.edu/CounselingCenter)

[wucc@wcupa.edu](mailto:wucc@wcupa.edu) Lawrence Center, Second level 750 S. New St





# VETERANS CENTER



Providing student veterans and their families a central location for resources and support.

610-436-2862, [veteranscenter@wcupa.edu](mailto:veteranscenter@wcupa.edu)

[www.wcupa.edu/VeteransCenter](http://www.wcupa.edu/VeteransCenter)



# LINKEDIN LEARNING

Free online training, with a digital library of over 180,000 videos, covering a wide range of technical, business, software, and creative topics. Such as:

MS Office – Google Analytics – SQL – And MORE!

[www.wcupa.edu/LinkedInLearning](http://www.wcupa.edu/LinkedInLearning)



# MAIN CAMPUS DINING OPTIONS

- Dining Hall
- Sykes Student Union
- Food Trucks
- 75+ Restaurants and Cafés in West Chester  
[www.downtownwestchester.com](http://www.downtownwestchester.com)





# GLOBAL ENGAGEMENT OFFICE

Services for International Students and  
Study Abroad opportunities.

Located in Mitchell Hall, 3<sup>rd</sup> floor

[wcupa.edu/International](http://wcupa.edu/International)

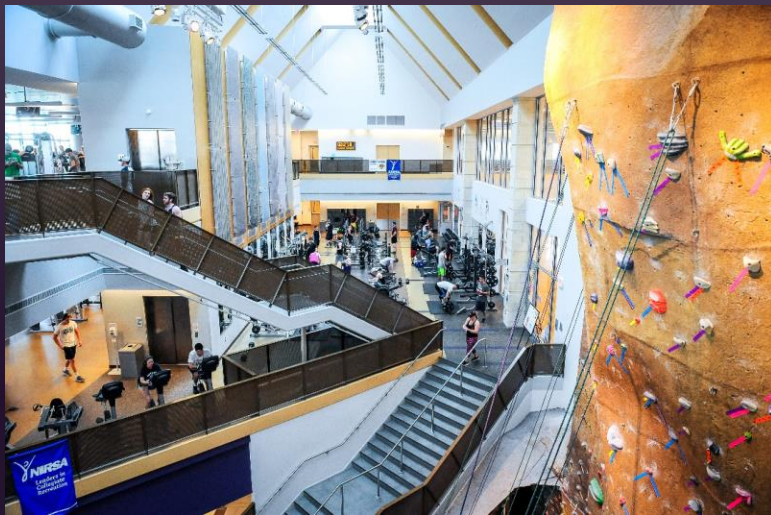
610-436-3515



# STUDENT REC CENTER

- 13,000 square feet of cardio & strength floor area
- 120 pieces of cardio & strength equipment
- Indoor jogging track
- 38-foot rock climbing wall

[www.wcupa.edu/CampusRec](http://www.wcupa.edu/CampusRec)







MADELENE WING THEATRE

UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN  
MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

1000 S. State St.  
1000 S. State St.  
1000 S. State St.  
1000 S. State St.



# CENTER FOR TRANS & QUEER ADVOCACY



The Center provides information, resources, and support for programming to members of the university and the community.



TransAndQueer@wcupa.edu  
610-436-3147  
Sykes 250  
wcupa.edu/TransAndQueer

## Place for Community



Fall Festival



## Ruby Jones Conference on Race, Social Justice, and Civic Engagement

Dowdy Emergent Leaders



The Dowdy Multicultural Center promotes the holistic success and development of Students of Color (SOC) at West Chester University. We implement collaborative co-curricular experiences that promote **multicultural awareness**, creates a sense of **belonging**, affirms **racial and cultural identity**, and **empowers** all students to challenge **systems of oppression**.

A place for community  
A place for engagement  
A place for support

## Kente Graduation Celebration



## Multicultural Organization Advisory Board (MOAB)



## Dowdy Diversity, Inclusion, and Civility Scholars Program



## Cultural Heritage/History Months

Latinx Heritage Month

Native American Heritage Month

Black History Month

Asian Pacific Islander

Desi American History Month

## Brothers of Excellence Conference



## Peer Mentoring Program



Instagram: [DowdyMC\\_WCU](#) | Facebook: [WCU Dowdy Multicultural Center](#) | Email: [Multicultural@wcupa.edu](mailto:Multicultural@wcupa.edu)

# OFFICE OF EDUCATIONAL ACCESSIBILITY

Lawrence Center, 223

610-436-2564

[oea@wcupa.edu](mailto:oea@wcupa.edu)

[wcupa.edu/universityCollege/oea](http://wcupa.edu/universityCollege/oea)

## Student Resources:

- Academic coaching
- Adaptive technology
- Proctoring center ([oeapc@wcupa.edu](mailto:oeapc@wcupa.edu))



# Center for Women & Gender Equity

220 Lawrence Center • [wcupa.edu/womenscenter](http://wcupa.edu/womenscenter) • 610-436-2122



@wcuCWGE



@wcu\_CWGE



@wcu\_CWGE



Since 1974, the Center for Women & Gender Equity has been celebrating, honoring, and empowering our campus community through a diverse range of educational programs, resources, and advocacy for all people.

# HOUSING

## On-campus Graduate Housing

### The Village Apartments

4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, laundry, kitchen, & living space

- Computer lab
- Fitness center
- Movie theater
- P.O.D. market
- Community Garden



University Student Housing, LLC, 610-430-4USH  
[www.wcuhousing.com](http://www.wcuhousing.com) [leasing@ushcommunities.org](mailto:leasing@ushcommunities.org)

## Off-campus housing:

Many apartment complexes in and around West Chester, PA.

The Off-Campus & Commuter Services Office can help guide you.



#### SUPPORTING OFF CAMPUS AND COMMUTER STUDENTS

- Parking and Transportation
- Daytime programs for Commuters
- Moving off campus education
  - Student Rambassadors
  - Free Student Legal Service

610-436-2209  
Sykes 238  
[wcupa.edu/occs](http://wcupa.edu/occs)



# RESOURCE PANTRY

The Pantry offers non-perishable food, fresh produce from the campus gardens, personal care items, school supplies, and winter and career clothing.

- Open to ALL undergraduate and graduate students.
- Commonwealth Hall, Lower Level
- [wcupa.edu/pantry](http://wcupa.edu/pantry)
- 610-436-2378
- [Pantry@wcupa.edu](mailto:Pantry@wcupa.edu)



# DISCOVER



VIRTUAL TOURS & EVENTS

[www.wcupa.edu/gradschoolevents](http://www.wcupa.edu/gradschoolevents)

**CONGRATULATIONS!**

**ALL THE BEST FOR A  
GREAT SEMESTER!**



