

**BENNETT COLLEGE
900 EAST WASHINGTON STREET
GREENSBORO, NORTH CAROLINA 27410
DR. ROSALIND FUSE-HALL, PRESIDENT**

**THE FIRST YEAR EXPERIENCE PROGRAM
DR. ALTHEA S. TRUESDALE, DIRECTOR**

COMPONENTS OF THE FIRST YEAR EXPERIENCE PROGRAM

- ❖ The First Year Experience Program at Bennett College was created May 13, 2013.
- ❖ The objective of the program is to increase student retention rates through collaboration and coordination of all Academic Divisions on campus.
- ❖ Programs are designed to promote engagement and to help students develop academic and life skills essential for success in college and the global community.
- ❖ The First Year Experience Program's services bring all stakeholders on campus together to work towards improving retention and graduation rates.

OFFICE OF ACADEMIC ADVISING

- ❖ The First Year Experience Program provides academic advising as an initial resource for students who are interested in exploring various academic pursuits at the College.
- ❖ For those students who have not declared a major, the program clarifies the College's general and core academic requirements.
- ❖ For those students wanting to change their major, the program provides career advising for combining academic options and personal interests.
- ❖ Academic Advising partners with students, faculty, and staff to help students understand all academic policies that are required to successfully complete all degree requirements in a timely manner.

CURRICULUM LEARNING CENTER

- ❖ In order for students to succeed, they need to believe that they have the capacity to learn and what they are learning is useful, relevant, and meaningful for them.
- ❖ Students need to know that classroom attendance is imperative and that they are responsible for their own learning and behavior.
- ❖ The Curriculum Learning Center offers academic support for students who are having difficulty completing core courses that are essential to becoming a successful college student.
- ❖ The Curriculum Learning Center provides support to students including help with study skills, time management, organizational skills, and help in specific courses.
- ❖ The Curriculum Learning Center is a friendly and stress free environment for students to study and complete assignments.

PEER AND PROFESSIONAL TUTORS

- ❖ The College's Peer and Professional Tutors' Program is a comprehensive program designed to provide one-on-one assistance and small group support.
- ❖ Peer tutors are Bennett College Honors and Dean's List students who are recommended by faculty, and volunteer their services. Professional tutors are educators who work part-time at the College. They are paid by the College for their services.
- ❖ Tutors are available from 8:00 am until 8:00pm, Monday through Friday and by appointment on Saturday and Sunday.
- ❖ Students are welcome to visit a tutor as often as they need assistance. Appointments can also be made Monday through Friday or they can drop-in.
- ❖ Tutors explain conceptual material and will demonstrate how to solve problems; however, they do not complete assignments.

THE MENTORING PROGRAM

- ❖ The goal of Bennett College's mentoring program is to help students make a successful transition from high school to college by connecting them with mentors who want to help them adjust to the rigors of college.
- ❖ The 3 major concerns first year students generally have as they transition to college include: 1) adjusting academically, 2) meeting new people/getting involved and 3) living away from home.
- ❖ The Mentoring Program offers support by providing a one-on-one relationship with faculty, staff, peer mentors, and community leaders.
- ❖ Mentors draw upon their own experiences to provide friendship, suggestions and guidance on everything from classes, study strategies, campus organizations and community resources.

OFFICE OF DISABILITY SERVICES

- ❖ Bennett College is committed to educating students with disabilities as defined by Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, the Americans with Disabilities Act, and the North Carolina Persons with Disabilities Protection Act.
- ❖ The College provides reasonable accommodations to students with documented disabilities.
- ❖ Typical accommodations include additional completion time on examinations, access to course texts in an audio format, being tested in a separate room without distractions, breaks in examinations for medical reasons, and access to notes taken by a peer note taker.
- The College adapts general services to the specialized, individual needs of otherwise qualified students with disabilities and provides equal access to all programs, facilities, and activities.

ORIENTATION FOR FIRST YEAR STUDENTS

- ❖ Orientation 100 is a required one credit hour course designed to promote academic success and assist first year and transfer students as they transition into the academic community of Bennett College. All students are introduced to the traditions and culture of the College.
- ❖ Research studies have shown that students who actively participate in a new student orientation during their first year of college perform better academically, feel more connected to their school and are more satisfied with their college experience.
- ❖ The classes are interactive and dialogue-driven. Topics covered include: critical thinking, emotional intelligence, problem-solving skills, career preparation, research technology, leadership theory and styles, global awareness, mental, physical, and spiritual health.

OFFICE OF COMMUNITY SERVICE

- ❖ The Office of Community Service is committed to increasing engaged citizenship, sustainable community partnerships and responsibility by helping students build connections and values as well as identify community needs.
- ❖ Students can enhance their experience at Bennett College by making a contribution to the Greensboro community and beyond.
- ❖ Through community service, student volunteers build networks and form partnerships that often lead to internship opportunities, and in some instances full-time employment.
- ❖ The College has mandated that all students must complete a total of eighty (80) hours of community service before graduation. Transfer students must complete a minimum of twenty (20) hours for each year of matriculation at the College.
- ❖ All students receive a Community Service Resource Guide that lists the name of the agency, a description of services needed and hours of operation.

FACULTY AND STAFF

- ❖ Dr. Althea S. Truesdale, Director FYE astruesdale@Bennett.edu
 - ❖ Ms. Mamie Doane, Coordinator, Curriculum Learning Center mdoane@Bennett.edu
 - ❖ Ms. Fodina Henderson, Coordinator, Academic Advising fhenderson@Bennett.edu
 - ❖ Ms. Kathy Warren, Coordinator, Community Service Kathy.warren@Bennett.edu
 - ❖ Mr. Jeremy Rogers, Coordinator, Disability Services jrogers@Bennett.edu
 - ❖ Dr. Michael Cotton, Coordinator, Orientation mcotton@Bennett.edu
- ❖ Bennett College is a private institution. It is one of two historically Black female colleges in the United States. It was founded in 1873.