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Grad Connect - News from Utica College

1 message

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Issue 31

Announcing the Utica College Graduation Fair!

Are you completing your degree requirements in either May or August 2015, did you complete your degree requirements in December 2014? Then you are invited to the Graduation Fair which will be held Monday, March 9, 2015 from 4-7 pm and Tuesday, March 10, 2015 from 10:30 am- 1:30 pm in Strebel Lounge. Do you feel prepared, and know what you need to do to graduate and/or participate in commencement? Come to the fair for a one - stop - shop and find out everything you need to know about preparing for graduation and commencement.



The graduation fair will feature tables staffed by various offices where you can gain information and ask any questions you have. Some of the participating offices include: Alumni and Parent Relations, the Bookstore, Career Services, Graduate Studies, Institutional Research, Registrar, and Student Activities. The goal is to provide you with all the information you need to graduate (completing your degree requirements, applying for degree, and receiving your diploma), participate in commencement (attend and participate in the ceremony), and information regarding commencement week events.

If vital information is not enough of an incentive, the fair will also offer a variety of door prizes and gifts, as well as snacks. Any graduating student who completes their application for degree and commencement RSVP / regalia order by March 15 will be entered to win a regalia package (students must order regalia before the drawing to be eligible, they can either choose to wait to pay and see if they win, or be reimbursed the cost of the package). The UC Bookstore has also donated a diploma frame to be given to one lucky winner. Other prizes and gift baskets will be awarded as well as Smart Wallets. Snacks will be provided by UC Dining Services.

Important Dates

Please note the upcoming deadlines:

February 27 - SOOT opens for D1 courses

March 8 - Last day of D1 courses

March 8 - SOOT for D1 courses closes

March 9 - D2 courses begin

March 13 - Last day to add/drop a D2 course

March 15 - Application for May degree (August graduates who plan to attend Commencement need to apply for degree by March 15 as well)

March 15 - Suggested deadline to get a Thesis/ Capstone to the committee

March 16-20 - Spring Break

What Do I Need

If you cannot attend in person, fear not you can still participate and be entered to win. Non-local or online students can still enter the drawing by completing their application for degree, [RSVP](#), and [regalia order](#) online at utica.edu/commencement by March 15.

Please stop by the Strebel Student Lounge Monday, March 9, 2015 from 4-7pm or Tuesday, March 10, 2015 from 10:30am- 1:30 pm. Any questions regarding graduation, commencement, or the fair can be directed to the Office of Graduate Studies at ogs@utica.edu or [315-792-3335](tel:315-792-3335).

More information can be found at: utica.edu/commencement

The Write Idea: The MEAL Plan

The writing department at Duke University, in an attempt to progress the student's academic writing, tackled the formulation of a paragraph. A Paragraph comes in all shapes and sizes. When you have the basic building blocks, you have a good foundation to which you can add variety. The basic building blocks for a paragraph can be imagined as a "complete M.E.A.L." where the body paragraph components are: a **M**ain idea, **E**vidence, **A**nalysis, and a **L**ink back to the big picture or argument.



M- The main idea is like an appetizer, a way to introduce the theme. It is often argumentative and appears as either the first or last sentence of the paragraph. In order to fully convey the main idea it can take a couple of sentences as opposed to one. The reader should understand each paragraph's focus without having to re-read. The main idea sentence(s) can bring unity to the paragraph and helps to convey the claim/argument. In order to do this each paragraph should center on a single idea or two ideas that work together to make the same point.

E & A often go hand-in-hand in paragraphs- one right after the other. Think of them as the meat and potatoes of the meal!

E- The evidence of the paragraph is like the main course where your point/argument is served with its plausibility. Evidence is the chain of logical reasoning. Use analysis to tie the evidence to your point. When evidence is presented, analyze it right away. Evidence can come from peer-reviewed journals, scholar articles, data from research and interviews, quotations from literature, or even images.

A - Analysis is like another dish in the main course. Once the evidence is presented and explained, it can be analyzed in order to prove the main idea. Evidence and Analysis may even appear in the same sentence. If evidence is left to speak for itself the reader may come to their own conclusion that is different from your argument. This is why E & A are hard to separate. Analysis is where you as the writer explain how the evidence proves the argument.

L - The link section is where the writer finds themselves in an awkward position trying to wrap up the main idea. A good link, like a good desert can tie everything together. It links back to the larger claim, and makes the paragraph relate-able. Without a link the reader is left wondering why the paragraph was added. The link should provide the reader with a good sense of how the paragraph fits into the larger scheme.

to Graduate and/or Attend Commencement?

In order to graduate every student must apply for their degree. The application for degree carries an \$80 fee.

This covers the cost of certifying the degree, and a copy of your diploma. It does NOT include the cost of the regalia (the cap, gown, and hood). In order to attend the Graduate Commencement Ceremony students must RSVP and Order Regalia. This can be done online at utica.edu/commencement. There is no cost to RSVP to attend the ceremony however, students must order their own regalia. The cost varies based on the degree earned. Regalia can be shipped to the student's home, and should be indicated on the order form. More information regarding Graduate Commencement can be found at utica.edu/commencement or by calling [315-792-3335](tel:315-792-3335).

Did you know?

The federal government offers 7 different repayment plans for federal loan borrowers. Federal borrowers also have opportunities for loan forgiveness. To find out what you may qualify for contact your federal loan servicer.

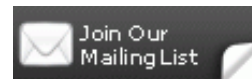
Not sure who your loan servicer is? Log onto www.nslds.ed.gov to find out. You can also receive FREE guidance on topics such as loan repayment, consolidation and loan forgiveness from your federal loan servicer. A loan servicer is assigned by the Department of Education to each and every federal loan borrower to help you manage

Individual paragraphs are just one portion of a simple three course meal. Each presents a small bite out of the paper's topic. Effective paragraphing will give the writer the building blocks necessary to produce a quality product. Next time you begin to write a paragraph think of the four components: Main Idea, Evidence, Analysis, and Link, and see how much more advanced each paragraph becomes.

More information can be found at:
https://twp.duke.edu/uploads/assets/meal_plan.pdf

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