

Visiting Artist Works with Students, UMW Job Expo 2023, Alumni Weekend Events & New Basketball Officiating Course Offering

Operations Update <operationsupdate@umwestern.edu>

Thu 9/21/2023 3:07 PM

Bcc:hthigpen@montana.edu <hthigpen@montana.edu>;lkurtz@montana.edu <lkurtz@montana.edu>



THE UNIVERSITY *of* MONTANA WESTERN



Academic Spotlight: UMW Early Childhood Course Partners with Montana Artist David Williams

Students in Dr. Nanci Red Bird's class, Social Emotional Growth and Development in Early Childhood, recently worked with Plains, Montana artist and veteran, David Williams, to highlight the role of artistic expression in emotion regulation. Mr. Williams, who used art to heal from a service-related injury, teaches students how to support children by emphasizing teaching the use of art tools, not how to be an artist. This allows children and adults alike to express themselves through art experiences that are



open ended and engaging, providing a powerful modality for communication.

Dr. Red Bird invited new faculty member, Dr. Xuan Li, and her Child Development course to participate as well as children from Canvas Early Learning Center, representing David Williams' philosophy that art can be evaluated by how people engage in it. Through this collaboration, the students were able to grow their own identity, changing their views of themselves as artists, while gaining more direct experience working with the young children from the [Canvas Early Learning Center](#).

**JOB
EXPO**

9.28

Great Room, STC
UMW Campus

10 a.m.-2 p.m.

Career Services Job Expo 2023

Career Services is excited to host the First Annual Job Expo where students can network with local employers to secure part-time work and internships. This event is FREE for all UMW students!

The event will take place on September 28 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. in the STC Great Room on the UMW campus. Students and employers interested in registering for the expo can visit <https://www.umwestern.edu/job-expo/> to complete the registration form.

For more information, please contact UMW's Learning Center & Career Services Coordinator, Kelly Coble: kelly.coble@umwestern.edu.

Save the Dates

Visit our [online events calendar](#) for more information and to [submit your scheduled events](#).

September 26

- 8th Annual Day of Giving, 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m., Legacy Plaza

September 28

- [First Annual Job Expo](#), 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m., STC Great Room

October 9-14

- Montana Western Homecoming Week (full schedule available soon)

October 13

- [Athletics Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony](#), 4:30 - 6:00 p.m., Lewis & Clark Room

October 14

- [Bulldog Bash](#), 5:00 - 10:00 p.m., Keltz Arena



Fall Alumni Weekend: UMW Athletics Hall of Fame and Bulldog Bash

The Athletics [Hall of Fame](#) Induction Ceremony will be held on Friday, October 13, in the Lewis and Clark Room of Mathews Hall. A no-host social will begin at 4:30 p.m. followed by a buffet dinner at 5:00 p.m. We are honored to celebrate the

induction of the following athletes into the Bulldog Athletics Hall of Fame: Trent Gibson – Football, Paul Snow – Men’s Basketball, Brandon Brown – Men’s Basketball, Wyatt Smith – Rodeo and the 1966-1967 Men’s Track team.

The [Bulldog Bash](#) will be held the following day on Saturday, October 14, in the Keltz Arena. A cocktail social will kick off the event at 5:00 p.m., followed by dinner and a live auction starting at 5:30 p.m.

This year’s theme is ‘Legacy and Gridiron Glory: 74 years of Bulldog Football at Vigilante Field.

To purchase tickets, please click on the links above or call 406-683-7306.



UMW School of Outreach Offers New Basketball Officiating Course

The UMW School of Outreach is excited to announce a new basketball officiating course, taught by Kevin Engellant, to take place this fall. Classes will be held on Wednesdays from 6:30 – 8:00 p.m. November 1 - December 8, 2023, and can be attended in person or remotely through Zoom. This course will teach the basics of officiating through weekly sessions with the opportunity to learn from Montana Officials Association (MOA) staff during a Referee Clinic on Saturday, December 2, on the UMW campus. During this clinic, students will officiate live action games while being mentored by MOA officials.

To register, please contact the School of Outreach at 406-683-7537 no later than October 25. All community members and UMW students are welcome to register. The cost for UMW students is \$130 and all participants are charged a course fee of \$60 that includes a referee whistle.

For more information about this course and all of the courses offered by the School of Outreach, please contact Ryann Gibson at ryann.gibson@umwestern.edu or visit <https://www.umwestern.edu/outreach>.



TRIO Accelerator Program Welcomes New Students to Montana Western

TRIO Student Support Services welcomed 30 incoming first-year students to campus for the annual [Accelerator Program](#) to kick off the start of the 2023 fall semester.

The fifth annual Accelerator Program allowed new TRIO students to move in two days earlier than most freshmen, giving these students the chance to learn about the expectations of the TRIO program. It also allowed students to meet their TRIO advisors, mentors, pick up their books and locate their classrooms before the first day of classes. This year, the TRIO Accelerator Program ran from Monday, August 21 through Wednesday, August 23.

During the course of the program, students learned the vocabulary of the university and were introduced to all the academic opportunities that UMW offers. This year featured a faculty Q&A as well as a presentation from the Provost and the Registrar about what a college degree is and how academics at a university work.

Students in the program also learned about the academic support available at Montana Western. Students toured the Library and the Learning Center as well as met with Counseling Services and Student Wellness to learn strategies to support their mental health. In a workshop on college economics, students learned how to manage loans and budgets. By the end of the three-day program, TRIO students had made new friends and had developed successful strategies to succeed in the upcoming academic year.

The staff and students would like to thank Pioneer Federal Savings and Loan for sponsoring the Accelerator Program and making this opportunity possible.

DegreeWorks for Spring Registration

Registration for the spring semester will begin on October 16 and the Montana Western Registrar's Office would like to remind students and advisors to use the new [DegreeWorks](#) software to plan out the next semester of courses.

[DegreeWorks](#), a web-based tool that students can use to track academic progress toward degree completion, helps students plan future coursework with their advisor and keeps them on track for graduation.

For questions, visit the [DegreeWorks FAQ](#) webpage or email degreeworks@umwestern.edu.



UMW Spring Registration Schedule:

Opening Dates:

Oct. 16 – Seniors, Post-Baccalaureate, TRIO, Montana10, and students with disabilities

Oct. 17 – Juniors

Oct. 18 – Sophomores

Oct. 19 – Freshmen

Oct. 23 – Readmits

Oct. 30 – New Students

UMW Ranked Among Best Colleges by U.S. News & World Report

The University of Montana Western has been ranked #7 in Top Public Schools, #8 in Best Value Schools, #23 in Best Regional Colleges, and #46 in Top Performers on Social Mobility in the Western region by U.S. News & World Report in their 2023-24 rankings.

Now in its 39th year, the rankings evaluate more than 1500 colleges and universities on up to 19 measures of academic quality. Each year, they provide prospective



students and their families with helpful data and information to help them make informed choices on selecting institutions of higher education.

The Western region is comprised of 15 states including Washington, Oregon, California, Idaho, Nevada, Utah, Colorado, Wyoming, New Mexico, Montana, Arizona, Texas, Oklahoma, Alaska, and Hawaii. U.S. News calculates each ranking based on a specific methodology, using factors including overall graduation rates, academic quality, Pell grant graduation rates and social mobility, first generation graduation rates, student support services, financial support, and academic resources for faculty.

To view the University of Montana Western's full rankings listing, visit <https://tinyurl.com/2p884snf>.

Upcoming Greece and Iceland Study Abroad Opportunities for UMW Students

The University of Montana Western will offer two study abroad courses for students during Block 8 of the 2024 spring semester: "Geology of Greece" and "Iceland: Climate Change and Arctic Ecology."

GEO 194: Geology of Greece

Discover over 200 million years of geologic history in Greece and how it helped shape the development of humans and civilizations in this historic region of the world. Students in this study abroad experience will learn how to identify different types of rocks and minerals, geologic structures, the plate tectonic processes that formed them, and how the most recent geological activity has shaped the human experience in this part of the world.



Students will leave early in Block 8 and return about two weeks later. The course will conclude with a photo journal, geohistory summary, and public presentation. Interested students should contact

Professor of Geology, Dr. Rob Thomas, no later than September 29, 2023, at rob.thomas@umwestern.edu.

Iceland: Climate Change and Arctic Ecology: Geological, Ecological, & Sustainability Investigations



During this study abroad experience, students will have the opportunity to tour a large portion of Iceland while learning the geology and ecology of this unique environment and will explore glaciers, geothermal activity, arctic vegetation, and native wildlife.

Students will travel abroad for two weeks of Block 8. Interested students should contact Professors Dr. Wendy M. Ridenour or Dr. Spruce Schoenemann at wendy.ridenour@umwestern.edu or spruce.schoenemann@umwestern.edu as soon as possible to register.

Submit Content to Upcoming Operations Updates

Please share your current projects, initiatives, examples of Experience One, and other updates with us so we can share them with the University Community and [let us know](#) what information you would like to see included in future updates. We'd like to hear from you!



[Submit Content](#)



University of Montana Western Communications

710 S. Atlantic St., Dillon, MT 59725

operationsupdate@umwestern.edu

Fall Issue #1: September 21, 2023