



PUBLIC SERVICES AND CONTINUING EDUCATION

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The Office of Public Services, with offices in the Regional Center for Continuing Education, 903 North Patterson Street, administers a number of educational and education-related programs which are presented on the main campus as well as other sites located throughout south Georgia. There are five major divisions in Public Services: Continuing Education, Off-Campus Credit Programs, Distance Education, Telecommunications, and the Evening Program.

The Continuing Education Division oversees professional development programs, leisure-type programs, and children's programs.

The Off-Campus Credit Division is responsible for assessing needs, requesting courses, and carrying out administrative duties involved with credit courses taught at off-campus sites.

The Distance Education Division is responsible for administrative duties involved with classes taught through two-way distance education technology. VSU is part of the Georgia Statewide Academic and Medical System (GSAMS), which is comprised of approximately 400 two-way distance learning sites throughout the state.

The Telecommunications Division is responsible for producing and transmitting programs via satellite with the VSU satellite uplink. VSU is one of three educational agencies in the state, along with GPTV and the University of Georgia, with satellite uplink capabilities.

The Evening Program Division aids students who are seeking degrees by attend-

ing classes on campus in the evening. Most of these students work during the day.

Public Services programs at Valdosta State are designed to aid residents of south Georgia in continuing their education and to assist adults in resolving problems encountered in their communities. Public Services' personnel desire to learn of the needs and interests of area residents which can be met best by the university. Efforts are made to identify resources located in the institution and the community to develop educational programs and services to meet adult needs and interests.

OFF-CAMPUS CREDIT PROGRAM

The Office of Public Services administers Valdosta State University's off-campus programs. Each quarter courses are offered in Douglas, Thomasville, Tifton, Waycross, Bainbridge, and other areas as the need arises. In addition, selected undergraduate programs are offered at Moody Air Force Base, Marine Corps Logistics Base in Albany, and the Naval Submarine Base, Kings Bay. By offering its courses at convenient off-campus locations, Valdosta State assists students in pursuing a college degree, allows teachers to meet certification/recertification requirements, and offers students a means of enhancing their personal and professional development.

For information and assistance regarding Valdosta State University's off-campus programs, contact the Office of Public Services, Off-Campus Programs, located in the Regional Center for Continuing Education (912-245-3842). Information concerning programs offered at the Moody Air Force Base and the Albany Marine Corps Base may be obtained by calling the Valdosta State University office at Moody, (912-257-4163). Information concerning programs offered at the Naval Submarine Base, Kings Bay may be obtained by calling the Valdosta State University office at Kings Bay (912-673-8524).

DISTANCE EDUCATION

The Distance Education Program offers a variety of courses to off-campus locations using the advanced technology of two-way, interactive video. As part of the GSAMS network, VSU operates six classrooms on campus, four at community colleges (ABAC, Bainbridge, South Georgia, and Waycross), and one at Kings Bay Submarine Base. For information concerning classes available through this technology, call 912-345-3842.

TELECOMMUNICATIONS

Through the Telecommunications unit (satellite uplink) VSU produces and transmits programs to satellite downlinks located in the state of Georgia and beyond Georgia's boundaries. This unit works very closely with GPTV to produce programs for the citizens of Georgia.

CONTINUING EDUCATION NON-CREDIT COURSES

Varied continuing education programs are offered for persons in Valdosta and surrounding communities. The Professional Development Institute presents seminars and courses for persons in professions, business, and industry. Some courses are developed especially to meet the relicensing or recertification requirements of specific

professional groups. Other Continuing Education activities include Elderhostel, Learning in Retirement, Children's Programs (including SCOPE, Kamp Kids, Fine Arts Academy, and swimming lessons), and Leisure Classes.

The Southern Association of Colleges and Schools requires the use of the CEU (Continuing Education Unit) by member institutions and provides this definition: "One continuing education unit is ten contact hours of participation in an organized, continuing education experience under responsible sponsorship, capable direction, and qualified instruction." The Office of Public Services administers the implementation of CEU procedures for the University. A permanent record of each participant's CEU credits is maintained, with transcripts available upon request.

COMMUNITY SERVICES

The physical and human resources of the University are available to assist groups in developing education-related programs and in working on the resolution of community problems. Under certain conditions, facilities of the University may be used by civic organizations for programs. University personnel are available as resource persons, consultants, public speakers, or group leaders to serve on community-oriented projects. Inquiries for community service assistance should be directed to the Director of Public Services.

EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTES AND WORKSHOPS

During the year, and particularly in summer months, educational institutes and workshops are organized by University personnel. Institutes and workshops are oriented toward the working adult as a means of providing up-to-date information and techniques in specific areas of endeavor. University personnel welcome suggestions for possible institutes and workshops.

EDUCATIONAL PROJECTS

The resources of the University are available to assist any public school system in south-central Georgia in identifying and resolving problems of the school system or in developing and conducting special studies. The University, through its well qualified faculty and administrators, is interested in working with public schools in the continuing process of improving the quality of education.