



JAMES MADISON UNIVERSITY

Transfer Chronicle

June 2007

Hi Transfer Students,

This is the first of three Transfer Chronicles you will be receiving before you return to James Madison in August. The Chronicle provides you with an opportunity to stay in touch with your ANT and also offers continuing support through your transition. Each issue will feature updates, reminders and other helpful information in order to prepare you for your first semester as a transfer student at James Madison.

Although Transfer Springboard has ended, your ANT is still ready and waiting for you and is prepared to answer any questions you may still have about the transfer process. Don't forget they are transfer students as well and have been through this same process.

Enjoy your summer and look for another issue of the Transfer Chronicle in July!!

Sincerely,

Your ANTs

Helpful Websites

Financial Aid

www.jmu.edu/finaid

Off Campus Life

www.jmu.edu/ocl

Registrar

www.jmu.edu/registrar

Residence Life

www.jmu.edu/reslife

University Health Center

www.jmu.edu/healthctr

Did you forget your ANTs email??

Annie Barnes: barnesak@jmu.edu

Paul Bidanset: bidanspe@jmu.edu

Marshall Dame: damemb@jmu.edu

Will Fawley: fawle2wj@jmu.edu

Gale Feather: feathega@jmu.edu

Victor Gyamfi: gyamfiva@jmu.edu

Kristen Johnson: johnsoke@jmu.edu

Lindsey Norment: normenlc@jmu.edu

Rebecca Scott: scottrl@jmu.edu

Brandon Shutters: shuttebd@jmu.edu

Jesica Tomlinson: tomlinjl@jmu.edu

Brian Williams: willabg@jmu.edu

<http://www.jmu.edu/orientation/staff/ANTS.shtml>

Important Reminders

Need to adjust your schedule?

E-campus will be available beginning Monday, July 23rd for Add/Drop sessions.

Need to sign up for a meal plan?

Remember that even if you are living off campus JMU still offers a meal plan that is right for you! Studying for classes can take up a better part of your day making it difficult to find time to eat and see friends. A meal plan makes it easy to eat right and visit with your friends at the same time! Go to www.jmu.edu/dining for more info and to sign up online. Then you can eat well all semester!!

Orientation Office: Wilson Hall Room 215/MSC 1010 Harrisonburg, VA 22807 **Phone:** (540) 568-1787

Email: orientation@jmu.edu

Appealing “000” Transfer Credit

If you received a “000” transfer credit for a course taken at your previous institution this does not mean that you did not receive credit here at JMU. Instead, it means that you have received elective credit which counts towards your graduation requirements, but not towards a specific General Education course at JMU. Although this may seem frustrating, there is someone you can talk with if you believe the course at your previous institution deserves credit here at JMU. To go about doing this, follow these three steps:

1. Gather the syllabus (preferred) or course description of the class from your previous institution. This allows JMU to see what kind of course work was required and whether it is similar to a class taken here.
2. Go through the JMU course catalog to find the class that most likely matches the previous class taken. You received this catalog at Transfer Summer Springboard.
3. Contact Dr. Herb Amato in the General Education department to request a time to discuss appealing your credit. You can email him at amatohk@jmu.edu.
4. If you are appealing for courses in a particular major that are not general education courses, you should contact the departmental office for that specific major.

Class Overrides

Overrides for a class are done on a case to case basis. They are not usually considered unless the class you are trying to get into is full or you do not currently meet the course requirements for the class. When determining who to talk to about the override, you should contact the head of the department for that particular class, not the department head for your major. The only time you contact a department head within your major is if you are trying to get a class specific to your major.

For example if you are a SMAD major you would only talk to the SMAD department head if it is a SMAD class. On the other hand let's say you are a business major and need to take a math course in order to meet certain requirements for graduation. You would then talk to the math department head about your override, not the business department head.

All General Education overrides should be discussed with Dr. Herb Amato. You can contact him at amatohk@jmu.edu.

TWELVE TERRIFIC THINGS TO TRY

1. Go Hiking!! The George Washington National Forest and Shenandoah National Park are so close!
2. If hiking isn't your thing, then go biking in the Shenandoah Valley!
3. Purcell Park is the perfect place to spend the afternoon. The 67-acre park has 3 softball/baseball fields, playground areas, picnic shelters, 4 tennis courts, and a walking trail!
4. Enjoy the theatre? Go see a show at the Valley Playhouse.
5. JMU has its very own arboretum! The Edith J. Carrier Arboretum is the perfect spot for a picnic filled with forests, streams and a pond.
6. Blue Hole Natural Spring is the perfect place to take a dip on a hot day.
7. How many states can you see at one time?? Go to Reddish Knob to find out and witness a spectacular sunset while you're there!
8. Enjoy spending the afternoon walking through museums?? D. Ralph Hostetter Museum of Natural History is the place for you complete with anthropology, zoology and geology exhibits.
9. Go to the movies at Court Square Theatre, Regal Cinema or even at JMU's own Grafton-Stovall Theatre.
10. If you love hotdogs and soda at the price your grandparents paid, then Harpers is the place for you!!! You can get a hotdog and a drink for just one dollar!
11. You haven't tasted soft serve ice cream until you've eaten at Harrisonburg's very own Kline's Dairy Bar. There is a new flavor every week so you're sure to create new favorites!!
12. Enjoy tubing, snowboarding, or skiing?? During the winter months Massanutten Resort is the place to be! If winter isn't your thing, they also have water parks open in the spring and summer!

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Transfer Spotlight

To help you in your transition to JMU, every Transfer Chronicle will focus a spotlight on four ANTs. Each issue, the ANTs will provide you with an insight into their personal experiences at JMU.

Question:

What is one thing you wished you had known about JMU?

Answers:



Marshall Dame:

I think one thing I wish I had known about JMU, at least in the beginning was how much there was to do on campus. I knew about Student Org Night and the football games, but during the first month of school, there are so many different things going on around campus! For example the \$2.50 movies at Grafton... it took me 3 weeks to figure that out! There's also the free a cappella performances, guest speakers and tons of other fun activities. I soon figured it out, but it would have been great to know that all these things were going on before I started my year. There is something for EVERYONE just look out for it and don't be afraid to go.... even if it is by yourself, chances are you'll see someone you know there.



Brandon Shutters:

I wish I would've known more about the academics. Sure I knew it would be harder because it was a university as opposed to a community college, but I wish I would've been able to talk to a student who was in my situation and could compare the academic level of JMU to that of a community college.



Will Fawley:

I wish I had known more about different academic programs and majors. There are several programs that I am just learning about that I would have strongly considered if I had known more about them. I felt like I didn't have quite enough information to decide what I wanted to get involved in when I transferred. I had also just finished learning about all of the programs that were at my previous institution and I felt as though it would be so difficult to find out about all of them at JMU and then make a decision.



Rebecca Scott :

I wish I would have known how easy getting involved in clubs and organizations is at JMU. With the wide variety of clubs JMU offers, it is so easy to find your niche. Involvement in clubs and organizations allows you to truly feel as if JMU is your school and helps you meet tons of new people. I highly encourage all transfer students to experience all that JMU has to offer and getting involved in a club or organization is a great place to start!

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TRANSFER CHECK LIST



If you haven't completed all of the steps on the Transfer One Book website, visit www.jmu.edu/orientation/transfer to do so. Here are a few other things you should do this summer:

1. Send your final transcript(s) from your previous institution(s) to JMU by August 27, 2007. Mail all transcripts to:

JMU Admissions Office, MSC 0101
James Madison University
Harrisonburg, VA 22807

2. The Health Record Form for the University Health Center was due June 4, 2007. If you still have not turned it in, try to get it to the university as soon as possible.
3. If you have taken AP tests, have ETS send your AP scores to JMU if you want to receive credit.
4. Will someone else need to access to your student bill? If so be sure to set up your QuickBill authorized payer. Reference the Transfer One Book website for further assistance.

Save these Dates!

August 24th, 25th & 26th

Transfer 1787 August Orientation is JMU's fall welcome program for new transfer students. At Transfer 1787 you will have the opportunity to meet other transfer students, reconnect with your ANTs, and get ready for your first JMU semester.

Be sure to mark your calendars and keep an eye out for more updates throughout the summer!!



Scholarships Available!!

Are you still looking for scholarship options?? The Centennial Scholars Program has scholarships available for incoming transfer students. In order to be an eligible applicant you must:

1. A completed FAFSA application on file with JMU (and be Pell Grant eligible)
2. Be a Virginia resident
3. Have an Associate Degree from a Virginia Community College
4. Have an interest in being an active participant in the Centennial Scholars Program.

Many benefits of the program are:

- Two years of paid tuition
- Will have a Graduate Mentor
- Community Service Opportunities
- Laptop Computer

For more information on the Centennial Scholars Program, visit their website at

www.jmu.edu/cent scholars