Master of Arts in Liberal Studies
Student Orientation
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Master of Arts in Liberal Studies Program
Associate Dean
School of Professional Development
Stony Brook University
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Kim Giacalone, Director
Marketing and Communications
School of Professional Development
Stony Brook University
Kim.Giacalone@stonybrook.edu
Agenda

• Welcome
• Program overview
• Teacher Certification
• Enrollment information
• Expectations
• Advisement
• Resources
• Staying connected
About Stony Brook

• Growing University
• Broad reach
• History of innovation
• Powerful partnerships
THE TOP 1%! Where Stony Brook sits among all the world’s universities.

THE TOP 100! Stony Brook ranking among national universities.

THE TOP 40! Stony Brook ranking among public national universities.
About SPD

• Stony Brook’s School for working professionals who want to enhance their career through part-time graduate study
• Courses offered primarily online with on-campus courses scheduled in the evening
• Leader in online education since 1997
• Home to SBU’s teacher and administrator certification programs
• ~200 students currently matriculated in SPD’s MALS program
Program Overview
Master of Arts in Liberal Studies Program

The Master of Arts in Liberal Studies (MALS) is an interdisciplinary degree program that examines issues and themes in the arts and humanities, social and behavioral sciences, and natural and applied sciences. The program is offered primarily to working adults who seek educational enrichment and professional development on a part-time basis, and does not specifically serve as a prerequisite for a more advanced degree.

Flexible Scheduling: On-campus and Online

www.stonybrook.edu/spd/mals
Master of Arts in Liberal Studies

Course of Study

This degree program consists of 11 three-credit courses, distributed among the three areas listed below. All degree requirements must be completed within five (5) years from the semester date of admission as a matriculated student. Students are advised to print and keep this student advisement worksheet (PDF) for reference.

1. Liberal Studies Core - 12 credits

Only courses designated as "Liberal Studies" core courses will apply toward fulfilling this requirement. Courses that have met the University's standards for the Liberal Studies core are coded in course descriptions and in the SPD Bulletin with an AHLS, SBLS or NSLS designation.

- 3 credits - Arts and Humanities Liberal Studies (AHLS)
- 3 credits - Social and Behavioral Sciences Liberal Studies (SBLS)
- 3 credits - Natural and Applied Sciences Liberal Studies (NSLS)
- 3 credits - Any additional Liberal Studies course with an AH, SB or NS designator

There are no transfer credits or substitutions permitted for the Liberal Studies Core curriculum.

2. Thematically-Related Cluster - 18 credits

A cluster is a group of courses that represents a focused area of interest. Students are allowed considerable freedom and flexibility in designing their clusters, and may choose from most of the courses offered through SPD. (Teachers must read the Teacher Certification page prior to developing their clusters.)

Students may also choose to use courses from one of Stony Brook’s Advanced Graduate Certificate (AGC) program as their cluster. A separate application is required; restrictions may apply. See a list of SPD’s AGC programs on our Graduate Programs page.

Please Note: Supervised Student Teaching or Educational Leadership Internship credits are not valid to meet any MALS degree requirements. (Please see individual course descriptions on the SOLAR System: Course Catalog, School of Professional Development or Graduate School, as applicable.)

3. MALS Project Seminar (CED 595) - 3 credits

The goal of the SPD Project Seminar is to teach students to understand and conduct graduate-level research. The research paper may or may not result in a project, e.g., a model curriculum for a school-based substance abuse program. Students will be guided in selecting a topic for their research paper. Methodology and resources will be reviewed as the student’s work is developed.

Prerequisite: Matriculation in MALS or MPS degree program; completion of 24 graduate credits within the program

Note: There are no transfer credits or substitutions permitted for CED 595 Project Seminar. Students must earn a minimum of a "B" grade in this course to fulfill the degree requirement.
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3. MALS Project Seminar (CED 595) - 3 credits
# Student Advisement Sheet

**MASTERS OF ARTS IN LIBERAL STUDIES (MALS) degree program**

**School of Professional Development (SPD) at Stony Brook University**

**N-201 Social and Behavioral Sciences**

Stony Brook University, Stony Brook, NY 11794-4110

Web: www.stonybrook.edu/spd Tel: 631.632.7050, option 3 Fax: 631.632.4992 Email: spd@stonybrook.edu

Name: ___________________________________________________________

Address: _______________________________________________________

Town: __________________________________________________________

Home #: _________________________________________________________

Cell #: _________________________________________________________

SB ID #: _____________________________ Stony Brook ID Number

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course ID</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Semester</th>
<th>Grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**LIBERAL STUDIES CORE (12 credits):**

- 3 credits: Arts/Humanities (AHLs)
- 3 credits: Natural/Applied Sciences (NSLS)
- 3 credits: Social/Behavioral Sciences (SBLs)
- 3 credits: from any one of the LS areas: AHLs, NSLS, or SBLs

**THEMATICALLY-RELATED CLUSTER (18 credits):**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course ID</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Semester</th>
<th>Grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**MALS PROJECT SEMINAR:**

CED 595 (3 credits). Prerequisite: Completion of 12 graduate credits within the program.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course ID</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Semester</th>
<th>Grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**Statement of Student Responsibility**

SPD students themselves — whether new, returning, or continuing — are responsible for reviewing, understanding, and adhering to their degree and/or certificate program requirements as described in the SPD website. All SPD students are responsible for reviewing, understanding, and complying with University and SPD regulations, policies, and procedures, as described in all official publications, and as published on the University website, www.stonybrook.edu, and the SPD website, www.stoneybrook.edu/spd, including, but not limited to, SPD’s online student resources, the SPD Student Handbook, and each term’s SPD Academic Calendar.

12/2008
# MALS Program Requirements — 33 credits

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Credits/Courses</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **Liberal Studies Core**      | 12 credits/4 courses | One of each of the following:  
• Arts & Humanities  
• Social & Behavioral Sciences  
• Natural & Applied Sciences  
• Plus one more course with a Liberal Studies designator |
| **Thematically-related Cluster** | 18 credits/6 courses | • Group of courses that represent a focused area of interest  
• Teachers select courses that fulfill NYSED content area requirements |
| **Project Seminar**           | 3 credits/One course | • Research paper |

[www.stonybrook.edu/spd/mals/program.html](http://www.stonybrook.edu/spd/mals/program.html)
Liberal Studies Core – 12 credits

• Dozens of course offerings each term
• Each Liberal Studies course is identified by a designator (AHLS, SBLS or NSLS)
• A few are identified by two designators (e.g., “AHSB,” which fulfills Arts and Humanities or Social and Behavioral Sciences – it can only count as one)
• Cannot transfer courses to fulfill Liberal Studies requirements
Liberal Studies Core
Identifying Liberal Studies Core Courses

- **Scan** for Liberal Studies courses in our printed course listings page on the SPD Website:  
  www.stonybrook.edu/spd/graduate/courses

- **Search** in SOLAR:  
  www.stonybrook.edu/solar

- **View on the Summer Sessions website:**  
  www.stonybrook.edu/summer
Liberal Studies Core – 12 credits

Identifying Liberal Studies Courses on Printed Course Schedule

School of Prof Development (CEA) Courses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Instructor</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CEA 545 AHLS</td>
<td>The Art of Comics</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Ruth Kisch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CEA 560 AHLS</td>
<td>Dalcroze: Music Pedagogy/Child</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Dorothea Cook</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CEA 567 AHLS</td>
<td>History of Jazz</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Steven Gehring</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: This Saturday class will meet from 11:30am-3:15pm on the following dates: Jan 31, Feb 7, 14, 28, March 7, 14, 21, 28, April 11, 18 - Spring 2015.
Liberal Studies Core

Searching for Liberal Studies Courses within SOLAR
Liberal Studies Core

Confirming Liberal Studies Courses within SOLAR
Thematically-related Cluster— 18 credits

• Students design own cluster to meet their personal interests or professional needs
• Students can take most of the courses offered through the School of Professional Development
• Students *may* be able to take courses from other departments unless those courses are restricted
• Students may use courses from one of SPD’s certificate programs (but to pursue the certificate you need to apply to the program separately)
Master of Arts in Liberal Studies Program

The Master of Arts in Liberal Studies (MALS) is an interdisciplinary degree program that examines issues and themes in the arts and humanities, social and behavioral sciences, and natural and applied sciences. The program is offered primarily to working adults who seek educational enrichment and professional development on a part-time basis, and does not specifically serve as a prerequisite for a more advanced degree.

Flexible Scheduling: On-campus and Online

www.stonybrook.edu/spd/mals
MALS for Teachers — Content Area Requirements

Certified teachers who hold an initial license can use the MALS for professional licensure provided that:

• they successfully complete at least 12 credits in the content area in which they hold an initial license;
• final grades in these content area courses must be a "B-" (B minus) or better; and
• they follow the steps outlined in our Sample Professional Certification Application Guideline for your TEACH on-line account (links on website).
Information for NY State Teachers

Pay careful attention to the requirements for certification

Teacher Certification Information

Master of Arts in Liberal Studies Applicants

If you are a certified teacher and hold an initial license,* you will need to earn a master’s degree to obtain professional certification. The MALS serves this purpose, provided that:

- you successfully complete at least 12 credits in the content area in which you hold an initial license;
- final grades in these content area courses must be a "B-" (B minus) or better; and
- you follow the steps outlined in our Sample Professional Certification Application Guide for your TEACH on-line account. (Be advised that this is strictly a basic guide and information must be adjusted according to your history, education and experience as appropriate. For further information, visit NYSED at http://www.highered.nysed.gov/tcert/certificate/relatedmasters.html.)

When applying for professional license, MALS students must file for certificate progression via "Individual Evaluation.*"

*If you are not yet licensed to teach, SPD offers several Master of Arts in Teaching programs that lead to licensure.

Content Areas

View our listing of professional certification content areas certification; however please note it is in the student's best interest

Program applicants should review the University’s course offerings to ensure that they are relevant to their specific certification needs.

- SPD Courses — Most of the courses you will take will be offered through the School of Professional
MALS and Professional Certification

List of Related SPD Graduate Courses

Content Areas:
- Biology
- Business and Marketing
- Chemistry
- Dance
- Early Childhood, Childhood, Middle Childhood Generalist
- Earth Sciences
- English Language Arts
- English to Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL)
- Family and Consumer Science
- Health Education
- Languages Other Than English
- Literacy
- Mathematics
- Music
- Physical Education
- Physics
- Social Studies
- Students with Disabilities (Birth-2, 1-6, 5-9 generalist, 5-9 specialist)
- Technology Education
- Visual Arts
Biology

According to NYSED, acceptable studies for certification in biology (grades 7-12) include courses in scientific methods, cell biology, biochemistry, anatomy and physiology, comparative anatomy, genetics and evolution, biological diversity, human biology, and ecology. Courses in nutrition are acceptable only if they are in cell nutrition.

Courses with departmental subject codes (e.g., BIO) are valid for the content area for professional license provided they are not methods courses. In addition, Stony Brook University has found that the courses listed below have met the NYSED requirements in the past; however, this DOES NOT GUARANTEE that these courses will continue to meet this requirement in the future. When in doubt, please check with NYSED prior to registration for any course to determine its acceptability.

New York State Education Department Contact Information

Office of Teaching Initiatives
NYS Education Department (NYSED)
Albany, NY 12234
Telephone: 518.474.3901
Email: tjcart@mail.nyired.gov
Web: www.highered.nysed.gov/tjcart/

Courses

CEB 565 History of the Long Island Environment
CEB 546/BIO 511 Current Topics in Biotechnology
CEB 547/BIO 520 Current Topics in Genetics and Molecular Biology
CEB 548/BIO 515 Current Topics in Microbiology
CEB 553/BIO 558 Biology and Human Social and Sexual Behavior*
CEB 554 Current Topics in Immunology
CEB 556 Ecology
CEB 557 Forensic Science (requires permission of instructor to enroll)
CEB 559 Modern Topics in Evolution*
CEB 563 Darwin in the 21st Century
CEB 586 Differentiated Instruction in Science and Math

*Denotes course that is regularly offered online.

Note: If you have taken a course that is no longer listed above, please submit a NYSED Graduate Course
CED 595 Project Seminar

• Goal is to teach students to understand and conduct graduate-level research
• At least 25 pages in length; APA formatted
• Must earn a “B” or higher to count toward the degree
• Students will be guided in selecting a topic for their research paper
• Prerequisite: 24 credit hours
• Get a head start! Start using a reference management program like Zotero or EndNote now
Planning Your Course of Study

• MALS students have five years to complete the degree
• Four courses (12 credits) maximum course load for the Fall and Spring terms, but the recommendation is two for working students.
Planning Your Course of Study (cont’d)

• SPD’s Office of Admissions and Student Services advises students on issues of policy and procedure as well as degree requirements.

• **International students**, students who are receiving financial assistance, students who are filing for licensure may have separate requirements to consider.

• Students must understand these requirements and seek out advisement from the Office of Teacher Certification, other campus offices and/or NYSED as needed.
Scheduling Overview

• Online classes: 10-week terms that start at beginning of Fall, Spring and Summer I

• Face-to-face classes:
  • Fall and Spring: Class meets for 3 hours once per week for 15 weeks
  • Summer I and II: Classes meet for 3.5 hours twice a week for 6 weeks

• Winter session courses are seldom offered (but when they are, they meet on four days per week for 3 weeks)
Expectations
Academic Expectations

• Be an active participant in class.
• Meet all assignment deadlines.
• Focus on the quality of your writing – including grammar & spelling, organization, depth of argument, intellectual engagement, and academic integrity. Seek help and get feedback.
• Maintain good academic standing with a minimum GPA of 3.0 (graduate, cumulative and in the program).
• Hone your research and citation skills: seek training and understand the Academic Honesty Policy.
Academic Honesty

• Cornerstone of all academic and scholarly work.
• Minimum penalty is an “F” in the course and suspension for one term for students found responsible for academic dishonesty.
• Often, accused students do not know how to properly cite their sources (but they are still found responsible).
• Consider viewing a recorded Citation Skills Workshop on or registering for a live webinar in September.
Online Learning at SPD

• Classes offered in an asynchronous graduate seminar format.
• Be mindful of workload: Each course requires about 10-15 hours per week.
• Be prepared to log-on and post on at least three separate days per week (but most students log in daily).
• Have a back-up plan: Print out material, back-up files, and find other resources for computing and Internet connectivity.
• Courses are “open” in Blackboard at least one week prior to the start of the term so check in ASAP to get started.
Administrative Expectations

• Students are responsible for knowing and abiding by all SPD/SBU policies and deadlines (refer to Academic Calendars, SOLAR, Student Accounts website, and SPD Bulletin).
• Check SOLAR for Messages and Holds.
• Proactively search for information on the SPD Website and SOLAR and seek help when needed.
• When contacting a University office, please include your SB ID and program name.
Administrative Expectations (cont’d)

• **File for graduation** in SOLAR at the start of your last term! Details on our website at http://www.stonybrook.edu/spd/current/graduation.html

• **Sign-up for and use your Stony Brook email account.** http://www.stonybrook.edu/mycloud
CHECK Your Stony Brook Email
Notice the tabbed interface: Messages sometimes appear here.
Dean of the School Takes the Helm

Dr. Charles Taber appointed as Provost for Graduate and Professional Education
**SPD Academic and Events Calendars**

Add the calendars below to your Stony Brook Google Apps account by clicking on the +Google Calendar button at the bottom of each calendar. You can also add the calendar on your iPhone or Android device.

**Academic Calendars**

[Graduate Calendar](#) (printable; Registrar's Website) | [Winter Session](#)

**Graduate Academic Calendar**

(Click on the dates for events)

- Nov 1: Removal
- Nov 2: Advance Registration
- Nov 3: SPD Online Session
- Nov 4: Advance Registration
- Nov 5: Open Enrollment
- Nov 15: Apply for Graduation

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Related Links:

- Final Exam Schedules
- Tuition Liability Schedule
- Stony Brook University Online Events Calendar
Advisement and Assistance

SCHOOL OF PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT
Enrollment Tips
SOLAR

SOLAR is Stony Brook University's enterprise-wide, self-service system which provides faculty, staff, and students with online access to manage personal information. Students use SOLAR to register for classes, print schedules, view and pay bills, update personal contact information, view transcripts, and submit student employment timesheets. Employees use SOLAR to update personal contact information, view vacation/sick accruals, print class rosters, submit grades, and much more.

Frequently Asked Questions

How do I change my email address in SOLAR?
Get Cleared for Take-Off
Common Enrollment Blocks (or Holds)

• Proof of Health Insurance
• Signing the Financial Responsibility Statement
• Enrollment in SB Alert
• Proof of MMR Immunization
• Missing Training – HAVEN
When To Enroll

• Enroll as soon as you are eligible and according to your enrollment appointment.
• Summer and Fall enrollment begins in early April.
• Spring and Winter enrollment begins in early November.
• SPD seldom schedules Winter courses.
• Clear up any blocks you may have before registration begins.
• Don’t worry about payment (yet). Secure the courses you need; the bill isn’t due until the close to the start of class.
A Word About Waitlists

• The majority of online courses will eventually fill.
• Most online courses have a waitlist
• If the course you want is full, add your name to the waitlist.
• If someone drops, you will be enrolled automatically.
• If enough people are on the list, a new section may be opened.
• Note: You are financially responsible for any course that you enroll in via the waitlist.
A Word About Cancellations

• SPD does not run courses with fewer than 10 students.
• Enroll early – we start cancelling underenrolled courses about four weeks prior to the start of class.
• Check the enrollment in your course by clicking on the course’s title in SOLAR.
• If the course is still underenrolled four weeks prior to the start of class, consider adding a second course as a back-up.
Ordering Your Textbooks

- You can find textbook information on SOLAR and on the Campus Bookstore (Barnes and Noble) website: http://www.stonybrook.edu/provostliasn/bookstore/
- You can buy or rent your books from any place you choose if you have the ISBN (except special course packs).
- There are benefits and drawbacks to ordering from the campus bookstore.
Your NetID
Your NetID

- Accesses all of the online resources not available in SOLAR: Blackboard, SB Connect, E-mail, Google Drive, Library Resources, SoftWeb, etc.
- Combination of your first initial and last name.
- Created for you – you need to log into SOLAR to create your NetID password.
Your NetID

SOLAR System

Holds
No
Holds.

To Do List
Complete Health Waiver by 2/15
view details

Home Page
Security and Personal Data
Change My Solar Password, NetID Maintenance, Whom to contact if I’m missing, User Preferences, Office Address, Addresses, Ethnicity, Veteran Status, Names, Phone Numbers, 8 More...

SB Alert Emergency Information
SB Alert - Registration

Elections
Student Elections, Faculty/Prof Elections, Senate Survey
Your NetID

NetID Maintenance
100258242    Name: Kimberly Giacalone

Information for students who are graduating or leaving SBU

Click here to set or change your NetID Password.

Security Question
In order to access the password management features available on this page, you will need to verify your identity by answering your security question. If you have not set up your security question yet, you will need to do so now in order to proceed.

Your NetID is kgiacalone
Your NetID

NetID Maintenance
100258242  Name: Kimberly Giacalone

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Your NetID is kgiacalone
Resources Mentioned in This Section

- SOLAR: http://www.stonybrook.edu/solar
- SOLAR FAQs/Tutorials: http://it.stonybrook.edu/services/solar/solar-for-students
Learner Support Resources
In 1996, the School of Professional Development began offering online courses to meet the needs of working professionals. Today we schedule more than 100 online courses per term, which can be used in our seven fully online degree and certificate programs.

Please read through the information below; if you still have questions, contact us.

 SPD Online Overview
   • About SPD Online
   • SPD Online FAQs
   • Online Degree & Certificates
   • Current Semester Courses

New Student Information

Getting Started

Blackboard Video Tutorials
   • Blackboard on demand videos

Online Learning Orientation
   • Sign up for our next orientation webinar, January 25 at 12 noon Eastern
   • Watch the webinar recording from prior semester
   • View the PowerPoint (pdf)

Username and Password (NetID)
   • SOLAR System (log in and click "NetID Maintenance")
Blackboard Browsers

- Use Firefox, Safari or Chrome (in that order of preference)
- The list includes Internet Explorer, but those of us who do tech support find that students report issues when they use that browser
- Available for most mobile devices—http://it.stonybrook.edu/help/kb/blackboard-mobile
Blackboard Tutorials

- Short video tutorials on every function within Blackboard.
- Access through the SPD Online Support course within Blackboard or bookmark the following link:
  http://ondemand.blackboard.com/students.htm
Blackboard Support Resources

• SPD Online Technical Support
  M-F, 8:30-5:00pm
  spd_online@stonybrook.edu or 631-632-9484

• SPD Online Support site in Blackboard

• SUNY Learning Network (After-Hours Support)
  M-Th, 5:00pm – 9:00pm Eastern
  Saturday, 10:00am – 5:00pm Eastern
  Sunday, 1:00pm – 9:00pm Eastern
  slnsupport@itec.suny.edu or 1-800-875-6269
SPD Library Guide — Curated by librarians for SPD

School of Professional Development

This guide is designed to help students in the School of Professional Development with their research.

Where To Start?

The purpose of this guide is to help students find appropriate materials for doing graduate level research.

Use the left-side navigation tabs to learn more:

- **Find Articles** - Find scholarly, academic, peer-reviewed, popular, and news articles on your research topic.
- **Find Books** - Find print and eBooks related to your topic.
- **Where Can I Find...?** - Where to look for the type of information you need.
- **What Do I Do When...?** - Ways to resolve various search problems.
- **Research Tutorials** - Interactive and video tutorials to help you with your research.
- **Citation/Plagiarism** - Find out about tools and sites that offer help with handling citation.
- **Educational Leadership Program** - Provides a list of recommended databases for doing research in educational leadership.
- **Higher Education Administration** - Provides a list of selected eJournals titles relevant to the Higher Education Administration (HEA) program. You can also search for a specific journal title.
- **Human Resources** - Provides a list of selected eJournals titles and databases relevant to the Human Resources program. You can also search for additional titles.

The Chronicle of Higher Education

- **Chronicle of Higher Education**

The Chronicle of Higher Education is the number one source of news, information, and jobs for college and university faculty members and administrators.

Other Relevant Guides
TIME TO ENROLL
Get the Details 

On October 14, PDK welcomed New York State policy makers to discuss "The Future of Education on Long Island." Details and photos »

NEW STUDENT ORIENTATIONS

Educational Leadership and School District Business Leadership Programs
Thursday, Nov. 20 at 4 pm; online Details and Registration »

Master of Arts in Liberal Studies Orientation Webinar
Monday, Dec. 1 at 4 pm; online Details and Registration »

Human Resource Management Orientation Webinar
Monday, Dec. 1 at 6 pm; online Details and Registration »

Advanced Graduate Certificate (AGC) Orientation Webinar
Tuesday, Dec. 2 at 4 pm; online Details and Registration »

SPD Winter Institute
New hybrid course experience combines online learning with weekend class meetings, guest speakers, networking and more

January 5–25, 2015

LEARN MORE »

BLACKBOARD
»Course Portal

CALENDARS
» SPD and Registrar

CONTACT US
» SPD Staff Directory

COURSES
» Graduate Course Listings
» Non-Matriculated Student Application

GOOGLE APPS
» Email and Hangouts

GRADUATE PROGRAMS
» Degrees and Certificates
» Non-Matriculated Student Application

PUBLICATIONS
» Forms
» SPD Bulletin

RESEARCH SUPPORT
» SPD Library Guide

sunysb.libguides.com/spd
Library Instructional Resources

• On-campus and online workshops delivered by instructional librarians. Register at http://library.hsclib.sunysb.edu/instruction

• Webinars are recorded or offered in the Fall:
  • Research Skills for SPD Students, January Date TBD
  • Citation Skills for SPD Students, February Date TBD

• We also recommend Zotero or EndNote workshops or tutorials for reference management. Other video tutorials are also available.
Hiding Behind the Screen
Roger Scruton

Human relations, and the self-image of the human being, have been profoundly affected by the Internet and by the ease with which images of other people can be summoned to the computer screen to become the objects of emotional attention. How should we conceptualize this change, and what is its effect on the psychic condition of those most given to constructing their world of interests and relationships through the screen? Is this change as damaging as many would have us believe, undermining our capacity for real relationships and placing a mere fantasy of relatedness in their stead? Or is it relatively harmless, as unproblematic as speaking to a friend on the telephone?

First, we should make some distinctions. We all now use the computer to send messages to our friends and to others with whom we have dealings. This sort of communication is not different in any fundamental respect from the old practice of letter writing. Except for its speed, or
• Writing Center tutors can help you improve your writing.
• Must plan well in advance and have assignment info and draft information at the ready.
• E-mail and telephone appointments available.
Professional Socialization and Career Resources

- Phi Delta Kappa: www.stonybrook.edu/spd/pdk
- Stony Brook Career Center: career.stonybrook.edu/
- Graduate Student Success: www.stonybrook.edu/spd/success
Technology Resources

• DoIT (Division of Information Technology)  
http://it.stonybrook.edu/ or  
http://it.stonybrook.edu/it-guides/students.

Everything you need to know about computing at SBU. Free and dramatically discounted software, University software tutorials, and more.

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