



*"Success is liking yourself, liking what you do, and liking how you do it."*  
- Maya Angelou

Want scholarship money to complete your SNL Education? Here's how to be considered for an SNL Scholarship:

Once each academic year, submit the [Free Application for Federal Student Aid \(FAFSA\)](#). If you have any questions or concerns, call DePaul Central at (312) 362-8610 or visit the website - [DePaul Office of Financial Aid](#).

Check out the [PLAYLIST \(FAFSA 101\)](#) on YouTube that describes the process of filling out FAFSA.

### DON'T BE SHY, YOU MAY QUALIFY

Every Academic year, **starting July 15<sup>th</sup>** login to [DePaul Scholarship Connect](#) at to submit the *General Application* and the *School for New Learning Application*.  
<https://depaul.academicworks.com/>

### YOU MUST SUBMIT BOTH!

**SCHOLARSHIPS** [snl@depaul.edu](mailto:snl@depaul.edu)

**PAYMENT PLAN OR FINANCIAL HOLD QUESTIONS?** Contact DePaul Central at 312/362-8610.

**Take Action** ... on "HOLDS" and "TO-DO's" Campus Connect

**FINANCIAL AWARDS**  
[studentaffairs@depaul.edu](mailto:studentaffairs@depaul.edu)

**FINANCIAL AID** [dpcl@depaul.edu](mailto:dpcl@depaul.edu)

**SNL ACADEMIC ADVISING** 312/362-5445  
[snladvising@depaul.edu](mailto:snladvising@depaul.edu)

**ADMISSIONS** 312/362-6338  
[adultenrollment@depaul.edu](mailto:adultenrollment@depaul.edu)

**GENERAL QUESTIONS** [snl@depaul.edu](mailto:snl@depaul.edu)

**STUDENT ACCOUNTS/TUITION**  
[dpcl@depaul.edu](mailto:dpcl@depaul.edu)

**REGISTRATION**  
[snlregistration@depaul.edu](mailto:snlregistration@depaul.edu)

Last month was National Mentoring Month! What a way to start 2019, as we prepare a peer mentoring program that many of you have enthusiastically supported. We held our first event in November and we look forward to launching a connected and collaborative program that will provide a space for your success!

Here at SNL – we define success as:

- When students graduate and refer someone back to the SNL programs
- Students walk away with a smile and an understanding of the program
- We admit the type of students who inspire other students in their courses
- Success is Subjective
- Faculty are great, inspiring and motivate students
- Faculty are accommodating
- Students find a job
- Students are happy in courses
- Students finish their degree and they came back for more
- Mutual gain -student and SNL gain -we did our job
- Planning and teaching personal and professional goals
- Students finish the course
- Students showed up to class
- Students achieved what they have set out to achieve
- Students graduate with the least amount of debt
- Student returns after trauma related issues
- Success is different for each student depending on their situations
- High GPA
- Student has a transformational experience (student is somehow changed), were inspired, changed trajectory of their life



**We want to hear from you!** Tell us how YOU define success through a very brief video or in email to:  
[SNLStudentSuccessandEngagement@depaul.edu](mailto:SNLStudentSuccessandEngagement@depaul.edu)

Contributing Author: Associate Professor, [Akilah Martin, Ph.D.](#),  
SNL Associate Dean for Operations and Student Engagement.

## SUCCESSFUL STRATEGIES FOR PRIOR LEARNING

Getting credit for your college-level prior learning is an excellent way to both accelerate the pace to graduation and lower the overall cost of your degree. There are several strategies you can take to be successful incorporating Prior Learning Assessment (PLA) into your degree planning.

1. Early on, you should work with the advising staff, including the colleges' PLA Advisor ([snlpla@depaul.edu](mailto:snlpla@depaul.edu)) to identify learning activities from your work and life experiences that may be applicable for college credit.

## SNL 2019 GRADUATES! YOUR ATTENTION PLEASE

Are you an SNL Summer 2018 or Fall 2018 graduate? Will you graduate in Win 2019 or Spr 2019 from SNL? Do you want to celebrate the accomplishments of your graduating class and convey a message of inspiration, and encouragement, share common experiences and insights, and motivate your fellow graduates to carry the DPU tradition out into the world?

If you answered **“YES”** to the three questions above, the opportunity awaits **YOU**, perhaps, to become your class **Student Commencement Speaker!** It's an honor to be selected to present the student commencement address. We encourage you to apply. [The application site opens Monday, March 18, 2019.](#)



- Successful Strategies for Prior Learning cont'd from Page 1 -

2. Since one of the chief ways of getting prior learning credit is to demonstrate what you have learned outside of the classroom is essentially equivalent to existing courses, begin to categorize your activities and compare them to course descriptions from DePaul and other colleges in Illinois. Click here > [SNL Syllabi](#).
3. For learning that does not easily fit a course match, assemble the evidence of your learning, and consult with the PLA advisor. This review might involve certifications, workplace learning, artifacts from your avocations, service learning, as well as a myriad of other representations of learning.
4. Develop a timeline to submit your prior learning and stick to it. Your PLA does not have to be submitted all at once, but it is good to have a firm idea of when it will be submitted and how it fits into your degree requirements.
5. If you are not taking courses in any term, (like summer and December), working on PLA submissions is a cost effective way to keep making degree progress.
6. PLA submissions may require supporting essays, so be sure to utilize [SNL Writing Boot Camp](#) and [DePaul's University Center for Writing-based Learning](#) (UCWbL) to help craft and polish your evidence.
7. Lastly, if you have several PLA submissions and would like a structured environment to complete them, strongly consider taking the college's Experiential Learning course.

Contributing Author: Professor [Kevin Downing, Ph.D.](#),  
SNL Associate Dean for Academic Affairs and Enrollment Management

## GET IN TOUCH ~ STAY IN TOUCH

### THE BEST WAY TO CROSS THE PROVERBIAL FINISH LINE AND GET THAT DEGREE

Yes, you're taking and excelling in your classes, but the final step is the 'challenge' and that's when your SNL Student Success and Engagement Academic Team comes **MORE** into play. It's what sets us apart from other Colleges ... your SNL A-Team and our commitment to your success!

### SNL Adult Learning Opportunities



We have expanded opportunities to show what you know and can do. You can always write an essay or put together a portfolio, but there are so many other ways you can show and justify how your experience demonstrates college level learning.

Here are some of the ways:

[Art Share](#) is offered quarterly (February 15th) to students who wish to present evidence of learning that meets the criteria or creativity in original works of art. For example, having worked as a professional photographer, a student received credit for the arts competence through an oral presentation using her portfolio.

**Certification Exams and Certificates of Achievement** document your professional skills and competences and a growing [list of these are pre-approved](#) and expedite your college level credit. If not pre-approved, they can be submitted for assessment [here](#).

**Learning on your own and through non-accredited courses** can become college credit by explaining in [writing](#), [orally](#) or [creatively](#). You can also explain how these experiences meet the [learning outcomes](#) of a college course.

**Service Learning** can get college credit and fulfill requirements.

# MARK YOUR CALENDAR

event dates you need to know



## SNL GRADUATE PROGRAM



As an undergraduate student, you can begin the application process for an SNL graduate program as you near the end of your undergraduate program. Click [here](#) to learn more about the three programs or contact [Sarah Hellstrom](#), 312-362-5744.



The [SNL Writing Boot Camp](#) is designed for ALL SNL students who have a writing project they wish to complete. SNL Faculty work one-on-one with students during these sessions. It is also an opportunity for students who have an incomplete grade to get support in finishing their work. [Watch](#) SNL student, LaTrice Jones, discuss her experience with SNL Writing Boot Camps. Click [HERE](#) for boot camp schedule.

### [Community Engaged Network \(CEN\)](#)

You're invited to an interactive conversation "MENTORING YOUTH AT-RISK". SNL Alumna, Diane Deaderick-DeMartra, Facilitator. Thursday, **March 21, 2019 5:30pm-8:30pm**, SNL, 14 E. Jackson, Suite 1451, RSVP [caea@depaul.edu](mailto:caea@depaul.edu)

**2019 BERTRAM SCOTT-ELIZABETH A. FENDER DISTINGUISHED LEADER WORKSHOP**  
"Illuminating identity, Power and Racial Equity in Diverse Learning Environment"  
With Desiree Adaway

Thursday, April 11, 2019 at 5:30pm– 8pm  
DePaul Center, 9<sup>th</sup> Floor Room 8005  
1 East Jackson Blvd  
Chicago, IL 60604  
This is a free Event, however ....  
[Advance Registration Required](#) Click [Here](#)  
Refreshments

Read how Kevin Yndestad demonstrated his civic engagement requirement as a "public advocate for cancer and research charities that support families battling cancer" in his [research paper](#).

**Work Learning and Projects** often demonstrate college level learning and you can submit various types of evidence such as artifacts, essays, PowerPoints, and videos explaining how your experience demonstrates learning outcomes and competences.

See how Brian Leonard used his professional work product to gain college credit in science – a [video installation](#) that explains the history of our universe titled "Formation Story" and is the first exhibit that visitors see as they enter the new Dallas Museum of Nature and Science.

[Experiential Learning](#) course can help you take your experiences and put them into a presentation that documents how they satisfy college level learning outcomes. For more information, see [Prior Learning Assessment](#), [Examples of Submissions](#) receiving credit, and contact your Faculty Mentor or SNL's PLA Advisor [SNLPLA@depaul.edu](mailto:SNLPLA@depaul.edu).

Contributing Author: Associate Professor, [Gretchen Wilbur, Ph.D.](#), SNL Assessment Director and Faculty Mentor

## WRITING AND READING COMPREHENSION



We've all been there. We schedule time to work on a writing project but something distracts us. When we return to our project, we're out of time and realize we've fallen

prey to procrastination and the next time you have a large writing project, remember that strategy is a key to writing.

Procrastination can be one of the biggest challenges when it comes to writing. Sometimes procrastination is rooted in fear of failure, success, or being alone (UNC). If we dislike writing, a tendency to procrastinate can make a writing project seem even more daunting. One strategy is to divide the project into smaller tasks and then place these tasks on your calendar.

When doing academic research, many students try to read all of the articles they find only to discover that some don't meet their needs. In order to save time when researching, it helps to read strategically. Often reading the abstract, introduction, and conclusion will give you enough information to determine if you should read more.

Staring at the blank page or empty Word document can be intimidating. But it is helpful to remember that many serious writers approach any writing project through a process which breaks the writing into easier to manage tasks.

Anne Lamott tells us "...the first draft is the down draft -- you just get it down. The second draft is the up draft -- you fix it up... And the third draft is the dental draft, where you check every tooth..."  
Developing strategies and breaking projects into smaller tasks can help us complete writing projects.

Contributing Author: [Nicholas Hayes, MFA](#)  
SNL Student Support Coordinator and Adjunct Faculty



Save the  
**DATE!**

**CAEA ... May 7, 2019**

LEARNING RESPONSIBILITY

Thought Lender Panel

DePaul Center Tiered Auditorium 8005

CAEA Mason-Parsons  
Foundation

SNL Graduate  
Student Showcase

SAVE THE DATE!

June 20, 2019

[caea@depaul.edu](mailto:caea@depaul.edu)

[SNL Graduate Student Showcase](#)



We heard you! Thank you for your many responses to SNL's Peer Mentoring Survey. We are in the initial planning stages! Mark your calendars: **"Finding the Right Role and Supreme Happiness!"** WHEN: April 25, 2019 ~ 5pm-7pm. WHERE: TBA. Don't miss this initial session. **WATCH FOR DETAILED INFO SOON!**

#### STUDENT SUPPORT SVC DIR.

Dr. Joe Chen, [jchen31@depaul.edu](mailto:jchen31@depaul.edu)

RECEPTION DESK 312/362-8001

Fax: 312/476-3220

#### RECORDS, GRADES AND DEGREE PROGRESS REPORT (DPR)

[snlrecords@depaul.edu](mailto:snlrecords@depaul.edu)

#### GRADUATION [snlgraduation@depaul.edu](mailto:snlgraduation@depaul.edu)

#### GRADUATING DCM STUDENTS

John Hemmerling [jhemmerl@depaul.edu](mailto:jhemmerl@depaul.edu)

#### HONOR SOCIETY ALPHA SIGMA LAMBDA

[alphasigmalambda\\_SNL@depaul.edu](mailto:alphasigmalambda_SNL@depaul.edu)

#### STUDY ABROAD

[snlinternational@depaul.edu](mailto:snlinternational@depaul.edu)

#### STUDENT AFFAIRS

<https://offices.depaul.edu/student-affairs>

#### SNL WRITING [snlwriting@depaul.edu](mailto:snlwriting@depaul.edu)

## Important Dates

Feb 07 [Begin Spr & Sum 2019 Registration](#)

Mar 22 [End Win Quarter 2019](#)

Mar 22 [Spr Quarter 2019 TUITION DUE](#)

Mar 25 [Student Commencement Speaker Applications Opens](#)

Mar 30 [Begin SQ2019 Classes](#)

Apr 05 [11:59PM Deadline to add Spr '19 classes](#)

Apr 12 [Last Drop day Spr 2019 classes with no penalty \(100% tuition refund if applicable and no grade on transcript\)](#)

Apr 12 [Student Commencement Speaker Application Process Closes](#)

## GRADUATE PROGRAMS



Educating Adults: SNL Summer 2018 Style



Joining participants from our SNL MA in Applied Professional Studies (MAAPS), MA in Educating Adults (MAEA) and BA in Individualized Focus Areas (BAIFA), we collaboratively created a Community-based Learning Project (CbLP) on Chicago's West Side. This past summer, Mr. Lawless, Chair of the

Austin Council's sub-committee on Strategic Education Planning, joined us as guest speaker to pitch a project we could take on: An action research project to assess community needs and create resources for relevant advocacy efforts of community organizations and members. We took on the challenge.

Participants grouped into teams with particular tasks for this CbLP, which also fulfilled objectives that addressed the learning requirements of the motley crew of several SNL program requirements. In Learning Contracts, each student delineated individualized learning objectives. The principles of andragogy guided this teaching and learning approach.

Learning products that evidenced achievement of the objectives were co-designed with the instructor and peers, with input from community members. The results benefited both SNL students and the community with the completion of a:

- Community Engagement Survey
- Strategic NFP Development Training workshop
- Domestic Violence Support Workshop
- Story about Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s Legacy at West Side Churches
- Analysis of Freire's *Pedagogy of the Oppressed* and Alinski's *Rules for Radicals*
- Chicago Cares Serv-A-Thon at Douglas High School

Currently, the students and Dr. Gabriele Strohschen are developing several chapters for a book, based on the CbLP experience, and will present at two conferences in 2019.

Contributing Author: Associate Professor and SNL Faculty Mentor, [Gabriele Strohschen, Ph.D.](#)



Online learning can be more convenient, but it is **NOT** easier! Taking courses online means taking greater personal responsibility for your learning. With the freedom and flexibility of online courses comes responsibility.

The successful student will view online as a convenient way to receive their education – not an easier way. It takes real commitment and discipline to keep on track.

## QUALITIES AND SKILLS TO BE A SUCCESSFUL ONLINE LEARNER

### Self-Motivation

- Establish a routine at the start of the quarter and stick to it!
- Find somewhere quiet and free from distractions to study.
- Establish a regular study time – log onto the course frequently.
- Pay close attention and follow instructions given by the instructor.
- Print a copy of the syllabus, keep it near; check it early and often!
- Stay on schedule/plan ahead. You can't afford to get behind.
- Know the deadlines and meet them. Don't expect the instructor to be available 24/7. Sending an 11:57 p.m. email about an exam that closes at midnight is not a successful strategy.
- Keep an organized study file; Backup all downloaded and completed work.
- Participate in online class discussions. By doing so, you will gain a better grasp of the course material and avoid feeling isolated.
- **Stay motivated!** Online learning is an endurance sport.
- When you're feeling burned out and tired of staring at a screen, don't give up. Remember that everyone has good days and bad.

### Personal Responsibility

- Read all course materials and communications carefully, completely.
- Accept critical thinking and decision making as part of the learning process.
- Be willing to "Speak Up" if problems arise.
- If you experience difficulty on any level (either with the technology or with the course content), communicate this immediately. Otherwise, the instructor will never know anything is wrong and will be unable to help resolve the problem.
- Be able to communicate through writing. In the virtual classroom, nearly all communication is written, so it is critical that you feel comfortable in expressing yourself in writing.
- Think through ideas before responding. Meaningful and quality input is an essential part of the learning process.
- Allow for careful consideration of your responses in online class discussions. The testing and challenging of ideas is encouraged; you will not always be right, just be prepared to accept a challenge.

### Study Habits

- Be willing/able to commit 8 to 12 hours per week per course.
- Online is not easier than the traditional educational process. In fact, many students will say it requires much more time and commitment.
- Spend extra time when you have papers, projects, or exams.
- Graduate-level courses will likely require more time per week.

Contributing Author: [Erin Kasprzak, MA](#), Instructional Designer  
Faculty Instructional Technology Services for the School for New Learning