



# PARENT & FAMILY NEWSLETTER

December 2023

From all of us at NEC we wish you a very restful and safe holiday season. Hopefully, the winter break allows you some time to see your NEC students and to rejuvenate before the spring semester starts. We are open here on campus throughout the winter term and ready to help for anything you need. Please don't hesitate to reach out.

Cheers, Allie



The Criminal Justice Club in conjunction with the Concord Police Department collected 100s of toys for the kids at Childrens Hospital at Dartmouth (CHaD) for their stuff a cruiser holiday event.



**NEW ENGLAND COLLEGE  
DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION**  
November 30, 2023 / Vol 3

**Diversity and Inclusion Office Newsletter**

The New England College Diversity and Inclusion Office is dedicated to educating the community about diversity and inclusion. The office offers programs that promote cross-cultural engagements, as well as encouraging building positive relationships. It also educates about self-respect. As we know self respect is very important to have because it can reduce feelings of inferiority and fear when doing something or when interacting with other people. A variety of services are provided to enhance self-awareness and academic success while respecting each other and creating an inclusive campus environment.

The last section of the semester had a variety of monthly cultural celebrations. Students had an opportunity to share their diverse cultures and festivals.

Most of the events provided ethnic food for the community to experience, as well as learning more about the different cultural recipes for both main dishes and desserts. Students gained a lot of wisdom in relationship building, collaboration opportunities, positive thinking, valuing diverse identities, and respecting differences as well as growing as a person for the common good.

**Multicultural Festival in October 2023**

The community enjoyed learning about each others' cultures through sharing of music, presentations, food and African Drumming



**Watch Video of ODI Events!**

# Residential Life and Housing Updates

Although it feels like students just returned from the Thanksgiving Break, it is already time for students to make their plans to leave campus for the fall semester closing on December 8th! **Residence Halls will close for the winter break at 7:00PM on Friday, December 8, 2023.** This means that all residential students will be required to leave campus before this deadline. Students who are currently enrolled in Spring 2024 courses may leave non-essential belongings in their rooms during the break but they will not be able to access their rooms so they should be sure to bring home anything they may need during the break. All residential students should be sure to follow any closing instructions they receive from ResLife about preparing their room for the break before leaving campus.

Winter athletes, students completing an internship or student teaching, and those requesting to access their room on campus at any time during the break for any other reason should already have submitted their break request using the link they received in their NEC email. We encourage students to check in with their course instructors about in-person requirements for finishing out their courses and make their travel plans as soon as possible. 24-hour quiet hours are now in effect through the end of the semester so students can focus on studying for exams and finishing up their final assignments.

**The Residence halls will re-open for students who are enrolled for the Spring 2024 semester on Saturday, January 27, 2024 at 12PM.** Students who will not be returning for the Spring 2024 semester should plan to remove all of their belongings and check out of their rooms before they leave campus at the end of this semester. Spring 2024 semester classes begin on January 29th and students should be sure to check their NEC emails regularly in January 2024 for additional details or return to campus instructions.

**NICHE<sup>®</sup>**  **\$1,000 College Survey Scholarship**

Take a short survey on your college and be entered for a chance to win \$1,000. Your review will help others find a college that's right for them.

[\\$1,000 College Survey Scholarship - Niche](#)

# Academic Advising Updates

Academic Advising has been busy connecting with our students as they plan for their upcoming Spring Term. Speaking with their faculty and academic advisors about their remaining academic plans is essential in preparing for a successful term ahead. Please encourage your student to visit us in The SHIP to discuss their schedules, interests in adding a minor, or whether a Winter Term course is right for them.

As a reminder, classes will begin Monday, December 11, 2023, for the Winter Term, and Monday, January 29, 2024, for the Spring Term. We are here and happy to help!



## WINTER TERM STARTS DECEMBER 11

*We have over 20 courses to pick from!  
Including...*

- INTRODUCTION TO EXCEL PROGRAMMING
- GANGS IN AMERICA
- COMPOSITION
- LAS OPTIONS COVERING ALL LAS 1 - LAS 7 REQUIREMENTS



CLICK HERE OR SCAN BELOW FOR COURSE OFFERINGS



# Tips From the Writing and Academic Support Center for Success in Winter Term Courses

Vacation mode is starting to set in for students, faculty, and staff as this last flurry of final exams and assignments begins to die down. Everybody is getting ready for a well-deserved break. Students who are enrolled in winter-term classes have a fantastic opportunity to take an extra class or two without the hassle of a full course schedule. On the other hand, winter courses come with their own challenges. Here are some tips to help students get the most out of a winter class.

## **1.Prepare.**

By the end of the fall semester, many students have carved out a place on campus where they can go to get their work done without distractions. This is just as important for a winter-term class. Students should make sure that they have access to a space with reliable Wi-Fi where they can attend their Zoom classes and get coursework done. It's also a good idea to take a look at the course in Blackboard before it starts so that students are familiar with the layout and where important documents like the syllabus and course assignments are located. These courses cover a lot of content in a very short amount of time, so knowing where everything is can keep students from falling behind.

## **2.Schedule around classes.**

It can be very easy to enroll in and commit to a winter class when students are already on a roll during the semester. That commitment can get a lot harder to stick to when vacation time actually sets in. Distractions like holidays, travel, work, family, and friends can push classes onto the back burner. Making winter courses a priority can help. Ways to do this might include setting alarms, using a calendar, or making the class(es) a part of everyday discussion. If students need to miss a class due to an unavoidable circumstance, they should keep the lines of communication with their professor open and try to stay on top of any missed work.

## **3.Use available resources.**

Even though winter-term courses are online, and many students are home during the break, college resources are still available! Tutors and Writing Coaches at the Writing and Academic Support Center are still available to work with students. Students can attend appointments in person or over Zoom Mondays through Fridays for a variety of courses. If WASC services are not available (during evening, weekend, or holiday hours), students can access BrainFuse, a free 24/7 online tutoring service, by clicking on "Tools" on their Blackboard homepage.

We hope that these tips help students and families towards a successful winter term. Winter classes begin on December 11th. We wish you all a wonderful winter break and look forward to seeing all our students back for spring, 2024!



**1 CREDIT  
WINTER TERM  
COURSE**

# College Convention

College Convention returns to Manchester, New Hampshire for 2024 from January 7–9! Coinciding with NH's First in the Nation Primary, students from across the country are invited to experience the primary process in January 2024. Students at the Convention will get up close and personal with:

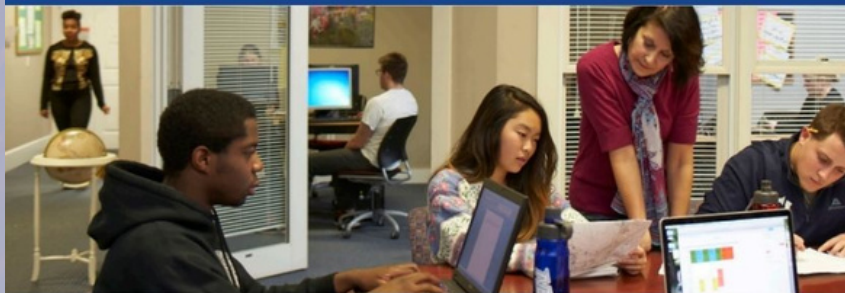
- Presidential candidates
- Campaign staff
- Members of local and national media
- Political experts and advisors

With a full agenda of educational sessions, an exhibit hall, conventioning, ranked voting ballot, and social events, the annual event is the most exciting place to come together with today's candidates, campaign staff, political experts, local and national media, students and political advisers from across the nation.

## New England College Mentoring



*Academic Achievement - Personal Success - Peace of Mind*



### **What?**

Mentoring is a high quality, fee-for-service program available to any undergraduate student to maximize academic performance and overall success, both inside and outside the classroom.

Mentoring is staffed with warm and engaging professionals from a variety of backgrounds and expertise. They either have or are working towards completing advanced degrees focused on understanding college-aged students.

### **Who?**

### **When?**

Students have scheduled appointments with their Mentor each week, developing strong relationships and a safe place to bring concerns. Additionally, Mentors outreach to parents, faculty, and staff, dedicating up to three hours per week to each student.

Many students have learning styles that respond well to the structure and support Mentors can provide. Others thrive with the personal attention, utilizing the resource to gain confidence and independence in a new environment. Many find the connection with a Mentor valuable when juggling social/athletic involvement with academic expectations, especially during their first year of college.

### **Why?**

### **How?**



A completed enrollment form confirms a student's space in this popular first-come, first-served program. Once enrolled, students and families provide valuable information and feedback to guide our customized approach.

**Scan the QR code to learn more about the Mentoring program and enrollment process!**

# FAFSA is Coming Soon, December 31 for the 2024-25 School Year

The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) for the 2024-25 school year will be available to submit starting December 31, 2023 at [studentaid.gov](https://studentaid.gov)

The Department of Education has changed the FAFSA this year as part of the FAFSA Simplification Act. Here's what's new:

- The FAFSA will be much shorter, and several questions will be automatically populated using federal tax data.
- The Expected Family Contribution (EFC) is now the Student Aid Index (SAI).
- An estimate of federal aid award eligibility and SAI may be determined at [studentaid.gov/aid-estimator](https://studentaid.gov/aid-estimator).
- The FAFSA will open later this year on December 31 as opposed to October 1.
- The FAFSA will be available in more languages.

The FAFSA should be submitted as soon as possible when it opens. We recommend setting a calendar notification now as a reminder to submit the 2024-25 FAFSA when it opens and before our March 1 priority deadline.

You may also get a head start on filing by logging in to your [StudentAid.gov](https://StudentAid.gov) account and confirming your information or creating a new account if you don't already have one. More information about the FAFSA Simplification Act may be found online at [studentaid.gov](https://studentaid.gov).



The 2024-25 FAFSA® form will be available  
in December 2023, not Oct. 1.

Federal  
Student  
Aid  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



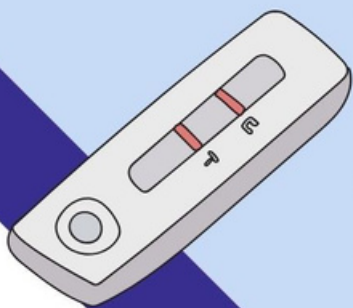
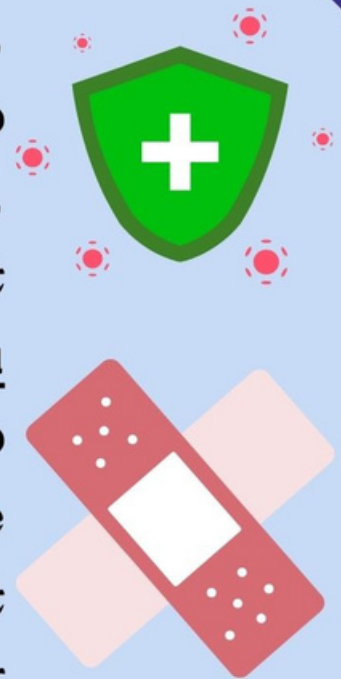
# From Wellness



## Reminder: 2nd dose of Meningitis B vaccines

Free flu vaccines for students ages 17 and 18 at the Wellness Center. Call us at 603-428-2253 or stop by!

Some students may be due for their 2nd meningitis B vaccines over winter break. Students who were emailed are reminded to complete this before returning to campus. Upload the documentation into the Medica Portal or email it to [wellnesscenter@nec.edu](mailto:wellnesscenter@nec.edu) right away once you get it done. Those who are overdue for their vaccinations at the start of the Spring semester will need to get up-to-date to attend. The Wellness Center can provide this vaccination for free.



Free COVID tests are available for families before the holidays with an extended expiration date until December 29th, 2023. Students can pick them up from the Wellness Center or the mailroom.

# Sign Up Now for NEC Emergency Text Messaging Service



New England College uses a text messaging service to contact community members in the event of an emergency on campus. This service, hosted through a company named Omnilert, also allows you to have messages sent to you in the event of a school cancellation (e.g. snow-related closings) or parking lot closings (for snow removal).

Sign-up for this service is free (standard text messaging rates would apply for each message), and you can have a second phone – perhaps for a parent or other family member – signed up to receive these messages.

## **How To Sign Up For the NEC Emergency Text Messaging Service:**

Please go to the following website: [nec.omnilert.net/subscriber.php](http://nec.omnilert.net/subscriber.php)

Follow these steps:

When the sign-in screen appears, click on the “SIGN UP” link at the top right corner of your screen

1. Fill in all of the following fields:
  - a. Username (we recommend that you use your NEC email username so that it is easy to remember)
  - b. First name
  - c. Last Name
  - d. Password (and then verify the password)
2. Next, please choose any of the optional groups to which you want to subscribe. (Note: All users will receive messages about emergency situations. New users are advised to sign up for the “Closings and Cancellations” or “Parking Notifications” groups if they wish to receive messages related to closings, delays, parking lot closures, and snow removal.)
3. Agree to the terms of use once you have read through and understand them
4. Click on the “Create Account” button – and your account has been created!
5. On the next page, enter your:
  - a. Cell phone number
  - b. Carrier (the company that supplies your cell service)
  - c. Click “add new”.
6. The system will send a validation code to your phone a short time later. Please open that message and find the code that is inside the message (not the number that the message comes from).
7. Once you have the code, enter it on your Omnilert page in the “validation code” field. Press the “Validate” button when done.

If you want to enter a second cell phone number (for instance, if your parent would want to get these messages as well), do the following:

- Enter the second phone number on your Omnilert page
- Choose the carrier for this phone number, and complete the validation as you did for your first number.
- You can have up to two cell phones in the system at any one time. You can add or delete these in your “Services” page of your Omnilert account.

**EMAIL:** You can also enter an email to which messages will be sent by the system. Please look for the “EMAIL ADDRESSES” area on your account page and enter an email address if you wish to receive messages this way. You will need to validate any emails addresses you enter - just follow the instructions on the page.

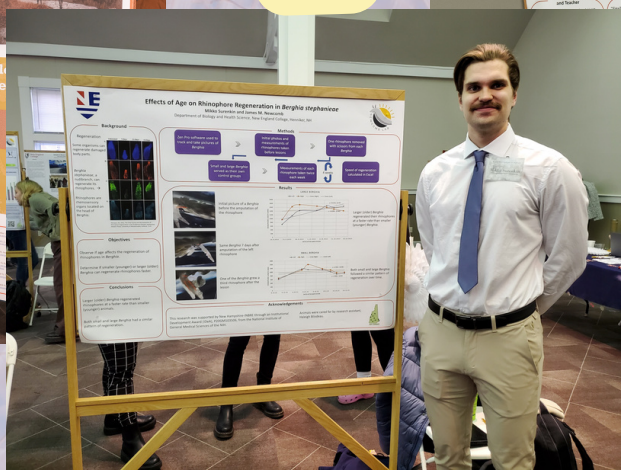
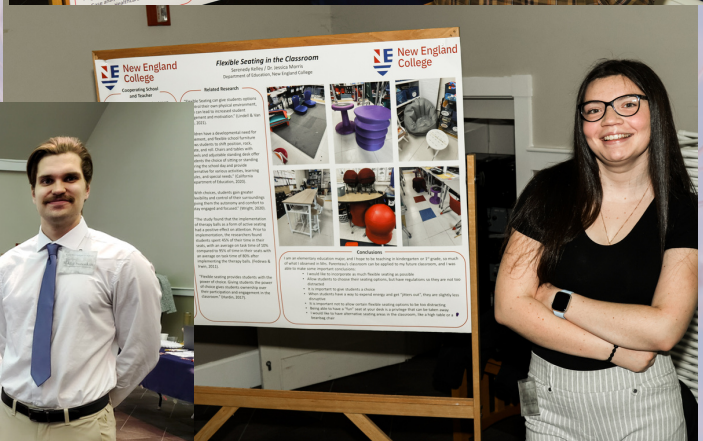
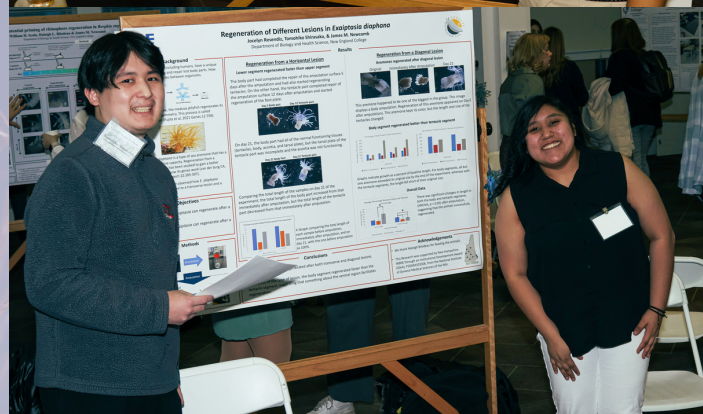
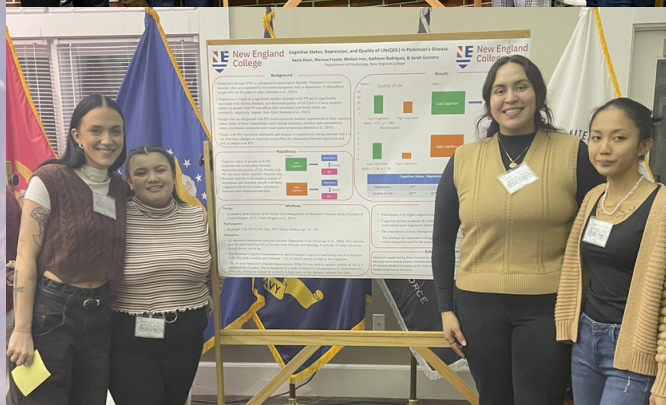
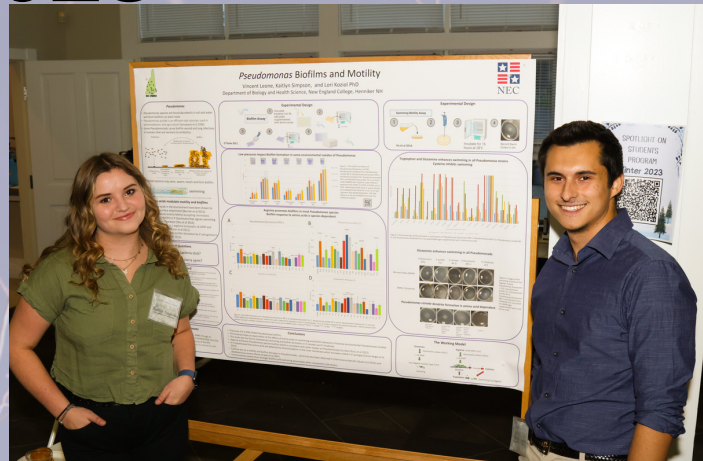
Please contact Jason Buck ([jbuck@nec.edu](mailto:jbuck@nec.edu)) with any questions about Omnilert and emergency text messaging – and thank you for taking the time to sign up for this important communication tool.



# Spotlight on Student Research

## Winter 2023

CLICK TO SEE ALL EVENT PHOTOS





New England College Theatre Presents  
**The Good Doctor**



Congrats to all involved  
on a wonderful show and  
to the two student  
Directors: Charlie  
Metcalf and John Bonica

# News from Criminal Justice



Shown in the pic, L-R: Associate Prof. Rick Hubbard, Asst. Prof. Tim Jones, Officer Tom Houghton, and Asst. Prof. Frank Jones, all joined by "Aspen".

On 11/7 CJ students at NEC were able to enjoy hearing from an accomplished alum, K9 Officer Tom Houghton, NEC '19, of the N.H. Fish and Game Department, Law Enforcement División. Tom and his new K9 partner, "Aspen", spoke with students about careers with conservation law enforcement and environmental protection. He included some information about some of his recent cases/investigations and credits the CJ curriculum at NEC with teaching him the importance of writing skills and knowledge of criminal law and procedure. His K9 partner is in training to become a State certified search/rescue dog for use throughout NH and New England. Tom also stated that "he came to NEC to earn his degree in CJ because he had heard of the great program" at NEC. Tom gave an excellent presentation to the students about how to join NHFG, and his journey through NEC.



On Monday, November 27, 2023, 10 student members of the NEC Criminal Justice Club were able to tour the NH Department of Corrections, State Prison for Women in Concord. They were accompanied by Prof. Tim Jones, and me. It was an incredibly engaging and informative tour.

Students were allowed to speak with inmates on a wide range of topics, including but not limited to treatment, rehabilitation, drug offenses/sentences, and prison life in general. We were exposed to some of the programs such as the Prison Pathways Program, and the Industries area where several inmates were learning to become licensed cosmetologists. We were also exposed to the Maximum-Security Unit. The students were provided with plenty of information about the employment process to join the NHDOC team. The students asked great questions, and really enjoyed this type of learning.



Shown in the pic, GSPCC Instructor Phil White, of the San Jose California Police Department (Ret.), engaging with the students.

Recently, NEC Criminal Justice students participated in an intense two-day Criminal Justice hiring lab that focused on all occupations in the CJ field. With outstanding instructors from the Granite State Police Career Counseling team, the students learned from professionals in the field of the best industry practices to getting hired. This also included practical exams on day 2, and the challenging mock oral boards staffed by working members of the professional community. This lab, a component to the CJ-4010/Career Preparation & Development course at NEC, has been highly rated by the students for many years. It is recognized as being influential in helping them to get hired in the CJ career field throughout the U.S. This year was no different; student reviews of the lab were outstanding. Some of the students received recruitment offers from GSPCC staff following the mock interviews!

# News from Education

Ed students are in their Methods placement. Each student participates in 15 hours of field work the semester prior to entering the 38 hours per week culminating field work placements.



## Message from Mentoring Program

Fall semester ends on Friday the 8th (already?!), and with that comes the mad scramble to finish the remaining assignments due in these waning days. Remind your student that class attendance is still very important. They should make the most of each day by scheduling time to study for a final exam, polishing that research paper, and practicing their class presentation. Academic supports are readily available and can help ease the stress at this busy time. If your student registered for Winter Term, that course will start the week of December 11th. Your student should make sure to check Blackboard before the class begins. The first college semester can be a whirlwind for first-years. Encourage them to debrief with you once they are home for Winter Break. What did they learn about themselves? Is there something they need to do differently next semester to improve their academic performance? Help your student think more deeply about their experiences both academically and socially. Spring semester will begin on January 29th. If your student struggled in the fall, and you think they could benefit from extra support next semester, please contact the Director of Mentoring Erin Brooks ([ebrooks@nec.edu](mailto:ebrooks@nec.edu)) for information about the program and how to enroll. Enjoy Winter Break with your student. HAPPY HOLIDAYS and best wishes for the New Year from all of us in Mentoring! ❄️

# PILGRIM SHOP

## HOLIDAY HUSTLE

**\$20 OFF**  
**\$85**

**\$10 OFF**  
**\$55**



**DECEMBER 1<sup>ST</sup> - 8<sup>TH</sup>**

**IN STORE - 20 MAIN ST**