

## A Brief Guide to Session–Based Classes

DeVry DuPage has begun the transition to 8-week session-based classes. By Fall 2008, nearly all classes (with a few exceptions) will be offered in one of two formats:

	<b>Compressed</b>	<b>Accelerated (Blended)</b>
<b>Formal Class Schedule</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 100% face-to-face time with instructor in scheduled class on campus</li> <li>• 2 – 4 class meetings each week</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 60% face-to-face time with instructor in scheduled class on campus</li> <li>• 1 – 2 class meetings each week</li> </ul>
<b>Independent Learning Schedule</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Some homework assignments every day</li> <li>• May have some independent learning activities</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 40% independent learning activities done outside of class at time convenient to students</li> <li>• Additional homework assignments</li> </ul>
<b>Advantages</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• You can immerse yourself in the subject.</li> <li>• You can break your study time into small, daily chunks. This allows you to learn the material in a focused and sustained way.</li> <li>• You can communicate easily with the instructor, either in class or via eCollege / email.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Best of both worlds – face-to-face interaction with instructor and classmates + opportunities to learn at a time convenient to your schedule.</li> <li>• You can access eCollege lecture notes and activities as often as you need to learn the material.</li> <li>• Independent learning encourages you to be more active and more engaged in learning.</li> </ul>
<b>Courses Offered</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All program courses in xET, ECT, day NCM, day NSA</li> <li>• Lower-level MATH, some lower-level Gen Ed</li> <li>• Programming classes in CIS and GSP</li> <li>• Intermediate Accounting sequence</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Upper-level Gen Ed</li> <li>• All program courses in WGD</li> <li>• Some program courses in BSBA, CIS and GSP</li> </ul>

DeVry continues to have 3 semesters per year, with two 8-week sessions per semester. Session A and Session B classes together will constitute full-time student status, so plan to take only 2 or 3 classes per session (4 – 6 per semester).

## Advice for Succeeding in Session-Based Classes

Students may need to adjust your study habits to succeed in session-based classes. Here is some advice:

- **Think 2 + 2.** Plan to take no more than two or three classes in Session A and two or three classes in Session B. Don't overload yourself. The point of session-based scheduling is to focus on only a few subjects at a time.
- **Register for both Session A and Session B classes at the same time.** This will ensure that you have enough financial aid to cover the whole semester. Financial aid will be disbursed at the beginning of Session A.
- **Attend every class meeting.** Every class meeting is important, especially in an accelerated class, so make every effort to attend every class. If you can't attend, make sure you contact your instructor as soon as you can. Also note that 8-week courses meet every week, so you may have to make up classes that you missed because of holidays like Memorial Day.
- **Remember to plan for independent learning time in your schedule.** Make sure you plan two to three hours each week for independent learning in an accelerated course. In a compressed class, you should make time to study every night.
- **Keep up with your school work every week.** Eight weeks go by in a hurry. You have to manage your time carefully to keep up with class and outside learning. Don't procrastinate.
- **Develop active learning study habits.** Your instructor may expect you to do basic, "surface" learning of concepts on your own, so he/she can use class time for "deep" learning. Instead of lecturing, your instructor may structure class time for demonstrations, labs, group activities, etc. that build on the lecture notes. So expect to read your text and lecture notes ahead of time.
- **Locate easy, consistent access to the Internet so you can complete Internet-based tasks on time.** eCollege, DeVry's Internet-based course management system, and the Internet will be two important tools in session-based learning. If you don't have Internet access with a fast modem at home, plan to study on campus, at your public library, or at a spot that offers free WiFi.

### Support is Available

The Academic Advising Office is offering workshops to help you succeed in session-based classes:

- **How to Succeed in Session-Based Classes**  
Wed., Feb, 27 @ 11am – 12noon OR Thurs., Feb. 28 @ 4 – 5pm
- **Time Management for Session-Based Classes**  
Wed., Feb, 27 @ 5 – 6pm OR Thurs., Feb. 28 @ 12 -1pm

These workshops will also be offered by appointment during Week 0.  
Workshops will be held in Room 264.