

WELCOME
GOLDEN RAMS!



NEW STUDENT GRADUATE ORIENTATION

WELCOME!

CONNECT **WITH US** ON SOCIAL



@WCUPA_GRAD



**WEST CHESTER UNIVERSITY
GRADUATE SCHOOL**



@WCUGRAD

THE GRADUATE SCHOOL

- **Fall Business hours: Monday-Friday, 8:00a-4:30p**
- **Contact us by calling 610.436.2943 or email GradSchool@wcupa.edu**
- **Graduate Catalog: <https://catalog.wcupa.edu/graduate/>**



IMPORTANT NOTES

- Fall semester begins on August 26, 2024.
- Students can enroll part time or full time with a maximum of 6 years to complete degree. Review the Graduate Catalog for additional policy information.
- D2L is the Learning Management tool at WCU – online orientation is available to all students.
- Students are required to use WCU webmail.
- RamPortal is the WCU Student Information System.

WEST CHESTER UNIVERSITY



HOW TO NAVIGATE WCUPA.EDU

REQUEST
INFO

VISIT
CAMPUS

APPLY
NOW

GIVE
TODAY

MENU



VISIT CAMPUS

APPLY NOW

GIVE TODAY

PRESIDENTIAL
SEARCH

WEBMAIL

MYWCU

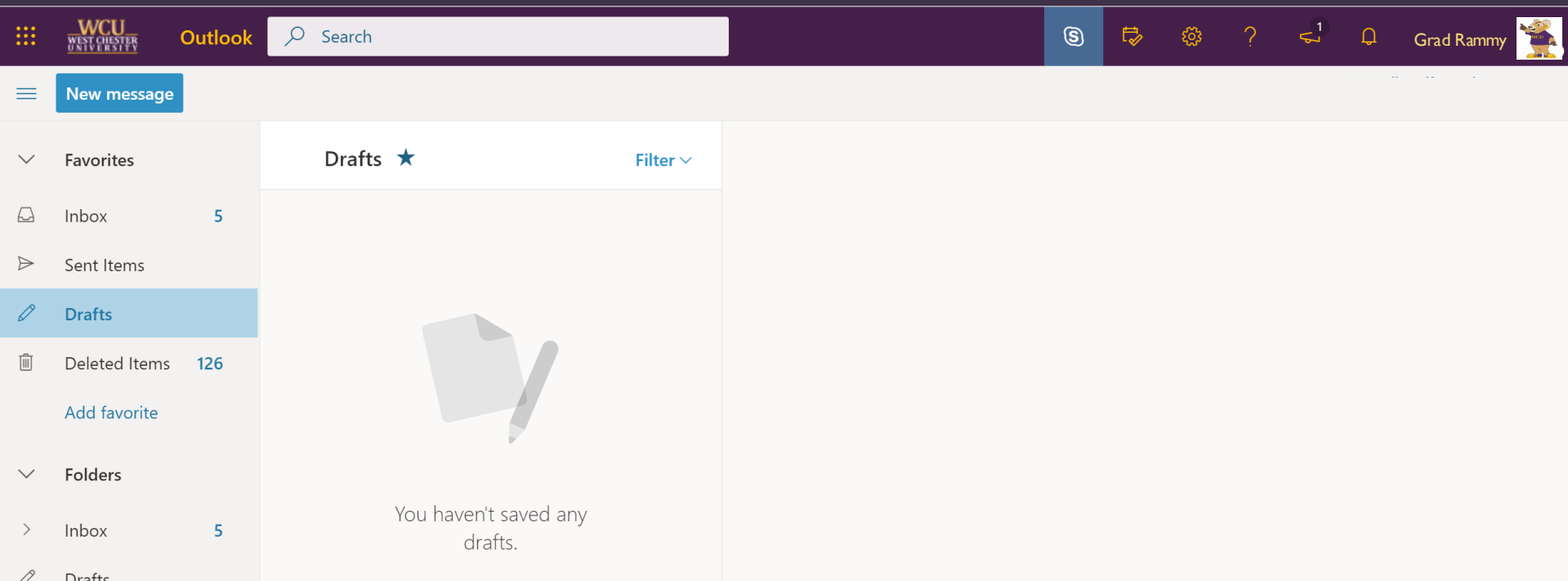
RAMPORTAL

D2L



WEBMAIL

- All WCU email goes to your student email
- Select:

A screenshot of the Outlook webmail interface. The top navigation bar is dark purple and contains the WCU logo, the word "Outlook", a search bar, and several utility icons. Below the navigation bar is a light grey header with a "New message" button. The main content area is divided into a left sidebar and a central pane. The sidebar lists folders: Favorites, Inbox (5), Sent Items, Drafts (selected), Deleted Items (126), and Folders (Inbox 5, Drafts). The central pane shows the "Drafts" folder with a star icon and a "Filter" dropdown. It contains a large icon of a document and a pencil, with the text "You haven't saved any drafts." below it.

University Resources ▾ D2L Help ▾

My Courses

All Training Resources **Orientation** Department 2019 Spring 2018/2019 Winter ▸



Navigating Digital Learning



Orientation for Distance Education Students

[View All Courses \(2\)](#)

Announcements ▾

There are no announcements to display.

Looking for Help? ▾

[WCU D2L Services](#)

[WCU IT Help Desk](#)

610-436-3350

[D2L Technical Support](#)

[Submit a Ticket](#)

1-866-832-1851

RAMPOR TAL

The screenshot displays the WCU Ramportal dashboard with a grid of service tiles. The top left features the WCU logo and a hamburger menu. The top right shows a user profile icon with the letter 'J', a notification bell, and a calendar icon. The dashboard tiles include:

- My Personal Information:** A tile with a person icon and a button labeled "MY PROFILE INFO".
- MyWCU:** A tile with a list of tasks: "Register for Summer classes", "Review your DPR", "Order your official transcript", "See your transfer credit summary", "View and pay your balance", and "Complete your housing application". It includes a button labeled "MYWCU APP".
- My Holds:** A tile showing "0 Holds Preventing Registration" and a button labeled "HOW TO RESOLVE".
- My Tasks:** A tile showing "0 Tasks" and a button labeled "HOW TO COMPLETE".
- Registration Dates:** A tile for "Fall 2024" with a table showing registration dates from 3/29/2024 10:00 AM to 12/14/2024 11:59 PM, and a "REGISTER" button.
- Register for Fall 24:** A tile with a calendar icon and a button labeled "REGISTRATION INFO".
- Financial Aid:** A tile with a wallet icon and a button labeled "FINANCIAL INFORMATION".
- Advisors (Swipe/Click Arrows):** A tile for "Jacqueline S. Hodes, Major Advisor" with initials "JH".
- My Personal Links:** A tile with a link icon and a button labeled "ADD NEW LINK".
- To-Do List:** A tile with a checkmark icon and a button labeled "ADD NEW TASK".
- Academic History:** A tile with a document icon and a button labeled "UNOFFICIAL TRANSCRIPT".

At the bottom center, there is a purple button labeled "DISCOVER MORE".

IT/ HELP DESK

The IS&T Help Desk/ResNet is the central point of contact for all technology-related hardware, software, and system support such as Office 365, myWCU and D2L at WCU.

- Phone: [610-436-3350](tel:610-436-3350)
- Option 1: ResNet Central (Student support)
- helpdesk@wcupa.edu

ACADEMIC CALENDAR

Accessible online at the Registrar's webpage:

www.wcupa.edu/AcademicCalendar



WCU CAMPUS LOCATIONS:



- West Chester Campus
 - North Campus: 700 S. High Street
 - South Campus: 855 S. New Street
- The Graduate Center
 - 1160 McDermott Drive, West Chester, PA
- Exton Location
 - West Whiteland Business Center
930 E Lincoln Hwy Ste 100, Exton, PA 19341
- WCU in Philadelphia
 - Mellon Independent Center at 8th and Market Streets

WCU IN PHILADELPHIA

Success Center:

Associate Director: Ben Morgan, bmorgan@wcupa.edu or 610-436-3714

Writing Tutoring
Library Research Assistance
Resume and Cover Letter Review

Counseling Services:

Free and confidential
Virtual appointments available with WCU Counseling Center

Visit D2L site:

FAQs
Contact Information
How-To Guides
Useful Forms
Helpful Links

Additional Services:

IT Support
Laptop Loan Program
Food Pantry

GRADUATE ASSISTANTSHIPS

- A graduate assistantship is an opportunity to work on campus in a research or service-oriented capacity to gain valuable work experience in higher education or an academic field while earning a stipend and tuition waiver.
- Graduate assistants work **5-20 hours per week** depending on the size of the assistantship. **Stipends range from \$1,250-\$5000 per semester**, and tuition waivers cover 3-12 credits of tuition. Students pay all fees.
- Students **enrolled in graduate degree programs** who are in **good academic standing are eligible**. (Certificate programs are not eligible.)

HOW TO APPLY FOR A G.A. POSITION

- As a current student, you should contact the graduate coordinator of your degree program to discuss your interest in an assistantship. Academic departments typically hire students from their own programs due to the nature of the work.
- Search for positions on the Twardowski Career Development Center's website: HandShake. These tend to be for student service and administrative offices on campus. (Example: Writing Center, Veterans Center, Office of Sustainability, etc.)
- Apply for as many opportunities that interest you. Persistence pays!
- There is general information about graduate assistantships on our website: www.wcupa.edu/gradassistantships. If you have any questions, please e-mail gradassistantships@wcupa.edu

GRADUATE STUDENT ASSOCIATION



Representative body for graduate students to network, support, and express common concerns for the continued progress and betterment of Graduate Studies at West Chester University.

← JOIN US! →



GSA@WCUPA.EDU



 **RAM
CONNECT**

[HTTPS://TINYURL.COM/GSARAMCONNECT](https://tinyurl.com/GSARAMCONNECT)



@GSA_WCUPA





FINANCIAL AID

- FASFA
- Federal Work Study
- Loans

610-436-2627

www.wcupa.edu/FinAid

FINAID@wcupa.edu



FINANCIAL AID: FEDERAL LOAN PROGRAMS

Federal Direct Unsubsidized Loan

- Up to \$20,500 per academic year
- Current Interest Rate of 6.08%
- Origination Fee of 1.062%

Federal Direct Grad PLUS Loan

- Current Interest Rate of 7.08%
- Origination Fee of 4.248%

Source: <https://studentaid.gov/understand-aid/types/loans/interest-rates#rates>



PRIVATE EDUCATION LOANS

- Visit the WCU Financial Aid Homepage to use the Student Loan Comparison Tool located in the Private Loan section
- The URL is: https://www.wcupa.edu/_services/FIN_AID/loans.aspx
- Apply for fall Private Education Loans and/or Grad PLUS loans beginning in May
- Both Grad PLUS and Private Education loans are “credit” based loans

BURSAR'S OFFICE

Please visit the WCU Bursar's Office homepage to find info about:

- Tuition and Fee costs
- Installment Payment Plans availability
- Due date of your bill
- Direct Deposit
- Employer Reimbursement of Tuition

www.wcupa.edu/Bursar

610-436-2552

25 University Ave, Suite 50



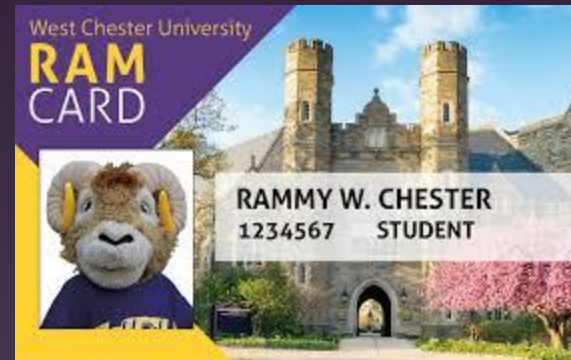
STUDENT SERVICES / CAMPUS STORE

Student Services (SSI):

- Ram Card (Student ID)
www.RamECard.com
610-738-0429

Campus Store:

- Textbooks
- WCU Branded Gear
www.WCUCampusStore.com
610-436-2242



Located in lower level of Sykes Student Union

RAM CARD (STUDENT ID)

1. Login using your WCU credentials
2. Select Upload Your Photo & follow instructions for submissions
3. If you are unable to come to campus to pick up your ID card, please select "online" for "campus attending" prompt. ID cards can now be mailed.
4. Follow instructions to make the \$20 online payment. Must be paid before pick up. If ordering it to be mailed, select appropriate option (\$25).



Located in Sykes Student Union, Lower Level



SO
SCHOOL OF
BUSINESS & PUBLIC
MANAGEMENT CENTER
UNIVERSITY OF
SOUTH ALABAMA

WCU POLICE DEPARTMENT

On duty 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year



WCU PUBLIC SAFETY: 610-436-3311

PARKING SERVICES

Parking passes are \$30 per year
Must order online!
www.wcupa.edu/Parking

609 S. Church St
610-436-3345

Open Monday-Friday 8am to 2pm



TRANSPORTATION & PARKING SERVICES

- North/South Campus Shuttles: wcupa.edu/shuttle
- Two SEPTA buses (the 92 and 104)
- SEPTA regional rail & Amtrak
- ChesCo SCCOOT bus from Kennett Square & Oxford
- WCU's Uptown Loop Shuttle bus

Questions about:

Public Transit ticket & pass sales: [610-436-2955](tel:610-436-2955) (SSI)

WCU's Shuttle Bus: [610-436-1053](tel:610-436-1053) or email shuttle@wcupa.edu

WCU ALERT

Receive text notifications for:

- On-campus emergencies
- Delayed openings and university closings due to inclement weather

Sign up at wcupa.edu/WCUalert



FRANCIS HARVEY GREEN LIBRARY

Holding more than 2.5 million books, journals, dissertations, articles, maps, e-books, albums, films and more!

Find your librarian! Resources for grad students: library.wcupa.edu/Graduate

www.wcupa.edu/Library
610-430-4400



CAREER CENTER

Offering comprehensive career development and job search resources

- Resume building
- Cover letter writing
- Interviewing skills
- Advancing a career
- Finding a full/part-time job

225 Lawrence Center

www.wcupa.edu/CDC

610-436-2501

CDC@wcupa.edu





WCU
WEST CHESTER
UNIVERSITY

STUDENT HEALTH SERVICES

- Please call 610-436-2509 for an appointment.
- Telehealth appointments are available.
- A mask will be required to be worn before entering the health center and throughout the entire visit.

www.wcupa.edu/HealthServices or 610-436-2509

Commonwealth Hall, Ground Floor

Emergencies: Call 911



WCU COUNSELING CENTER

The Counseling Center will be offering online counseling services to enrolled students. Students in crisis are able to come to the Counseling Center office. They ask to please call before entering so that health and safety measures can be taken. 610-436-2301 M-F 8:00am-4:00pm

www.wcupa.edu/CounselingCenter

wucc@wcupa.edu Lawrence Center, Second level 750 S. New St



VETERANS CENTER

Providing student veterans and their families a central location for resources and support.



610-436-2862, veteranscenter@wcupa.edu

www.wcupa.edu/VeteransCenter



LINKEDIN LEARNING

Free online training, with a digital library of over 180,000 videos, covering a wide range of technical, business, software, and creative topics. Such as:

MS Office – Google Analytics – SQL – And MORE!

www.wcupa.edu/LinkedInLearning



MAIN CAMPUS DINING OPTIONS

- Dining Hall
- Sykes Student Union
- Food Trucks
- 75+ Restaurants and Cafés in West Chester
www.downtownwestchester.com



GLOBAL ENGAGEMENT OFFICE

Services for International Students and Study Abroad opportunities.

Located in Mitchell Hall, 3rd floor

wcupa.edu/International

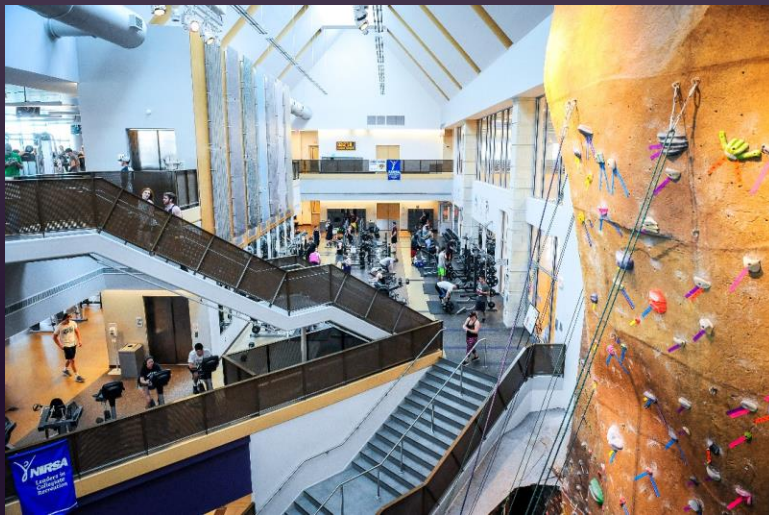
610-436-3515



STUDENT REC CENTER

- 13,000 square feet of cardio & strength floor area
- 120 pieces of cardio & strength equipment
- Indoor jogging track
- 38-foot rock climbing wall

www.wcupa.edu/CampusRec





MADELENE WING THEATRE

1000 UNIVERSITY AVE

1000 UNIVERSITY AVE
1000 UNIVERSITY AVE
1000 UNIVERSITY AVE
1000 UNIVERSITY AVE

CENTER FOR TRANS & QUEER ADVOCACY



The Center provides information, resources, and support for programming to members of the university and the community.



TransAndQueer@wcupa.edu
610-436-3147
Sykes 250
wcupa.edu/TransAndQueer

Place for Community



Fall Festival



Ruby Jones Conference on Race, Social Justice, and Civic Engagement

Dowdy Emergent Leaders



The Dowdy Multicultural Center promotes the holistic success and development of Students of Color (SOC) at West Chester University. We implement collaborative co-curricular experiences that promote **multicultural awareness**, creates a sense of **belonging**, affirms **racial and cultural identity**, and **empowers** all students to challenge **systems of oppression**.

A place for community
A place for engagement
A place for support

Kente Graduation Celebration



Multicultural Organization Advisory Board (MOAB)



Dowdy Diversity, Inclusion, and Civility Scholars Program



Cultural Heritage/History Months

Latinx Heritage Month

Native American Heritage Month

Black History Month

Asian Pacific Islander

Desi American History Month

Brothers of Excellence Conference



Peer Mentoring Program



OFFICE OF EDUCATIONAL ACCESSIBILITY

Lawrence Center, 223

610-436-2564

oea@wcupa.edu

wcupa.edu/universityCollege/oea

Student Resources:

- Academic coaching
- Adaptive technology
- Proctoring center (oeapc@wcupa.edu)

Center for Women & Gender Equity

220 Lawrence Center • wcupa.edu/womenscenter • 610-436-2122



@wcuCWGE



@wcu_CWGE



@wcu_CWGE



Since 1974, the Center for Women & Gender Equity has been celebrating, honoring, and empowering our campus community through a diverse range of educational programs, resources, and advocacy for all people.

HOUSING

On-campus Graduate Housing

The Village Apartments

4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, laundry, kitchen, & living space

- Computer lab
- Fitness center
- Movie theater
- P.O.D. market
- Community Garden



University Student Housing, LLC, 610-430-4USH
www.wcuhousing.com leasing@ushcommunities.org

Off-campus housing:

Many apartment complexes in and around West Chester, PA.

The Off-Campus & Commuter Services Office can help guide you.



SUPPORTING OFF CAMPUS AND COMMUTER STUDENTS

- Parking and Transportation
- Daytime programs for Commuters
- Moving off campus education
 - Student Rambassadors
 - Free Student Legal Service

610-436-2209
Sykes 238
wcupa.edu/occs

RESOURCE PANTRY

The Pantry offers non-perishable food, fresh produce from the campus gardens, personal care items, school supplies, and winter and career clothing.

- Open to ALL undergraduate and graduate students.
- Commonwealth Hall, Lower Level
- wcupa.edu/pantry
- 610-436-2378
- Pantry@wcupa.edu



DISCOVER



VIRTUAL TOURS & EVENTS

www.wcupa.edu/gradschoolevents

CONGRATULATIONS!

**ALL THE BEST FOR A
GREAT SEMESTER!**

