

COLLEGE OF LIFELONG LEARNING

The College of Lifelong Learning was established by the Mississippi Board of Trustees of State Institutions of Higher Learning in November 2002. The College is designed to meet the needs of the present day workforce and other adult learners, 25 years of age and older, across the state, region, and nation. The College is a portal of entry into Jackson State University for adult learners who wish to begin, continue, complete, or enhance their development on a part-time or full-time basis.

The College is comprised of three (3) primary units: (1) the School of General and Continuing Studies; (2) the Center for Adult and Continuing Education; and (3) the Continuing Education Learning Center. Its mission is to provide adult students quality learning opportunities for professional and personal development throughout their lifetime.

The College of Lifelong Learning is physically located within the academic community called E.E. Thrash Universities Center, 3825 Ridgewood Road in Jackson, Mississippi. This site serves as a metropolitan learning center for state, local, public, and private agencies, as well as, an undergraduate student classroom facility during the day, but becomes a graduate student classroom facility during the evening.

The College of Lifelong Learning has distinguished itself with an outstanding staff that is dedicated to providing quality education to adults so they may achieve the highest possible level of excellence. As we advance in this millennium, Jackson State University is redefining Lifelong Learning by developing cutting edge programs and seminars of interest to the community. The ultimate goal is to bring together the resources of the university, public and private schools, industry, government, and community to jointly address problems affecting the quality of life.



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"Creating a World of Successful People"

College of Lifelong Learning

JACKSON STATE UNIVERSITY



*"Creating
a World of
Successful
People"*



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JACKSON STATE UNIVERSITY

Jackson State University is a historically Black, comprehensive, coeducational, research-intensive public institution that has been designated by the Board of Trustees of State Institutions



H. T. Sampson Library

of Higher Learning as the urban institution of Mississippi. The University functions as a community of learners where teaching, research, and service are central to its total metropolitan learning environment. The University maintains a commitment to effectively serve students from diverse academic, social, economic, ethnic, and geographic backgrounds. The University also utilizes its human, cultural, and physical resources to enhance the surrounding communities and the State of Mississippi. It further develops responsible leaders who are capable and willing to seek solutions to human, social, and technological problems, with special emphasis on those relevant to the urban and rural areas of the state, the nation, and the world.

The University functions as a community of learners where teaching, research, and service are central to its total metropolitan learning environment. The academic programs of the University are organized into 6 colleges and 4 divisions: College of Health, Social Work and Public Policy; College of Business; College of Education and Human Development; College of Liberal Arts; College of Science, Engineering, and Technology; College of Lifelong Learning; Division of Undergraduate Studies; Division of Graduate Studies; Division of International Studies; and the Division of Library and Information Resources.

Jackson State University is committed to assuring equal opportunity to all persons, and does not discriminate on the basis of race, creed, color, gender, sexual orientation, age, religion, national or ethnic origin, disability, or veteran status in its educational programs, activities, admissions or employment practices. For more information about Jackson State University and its services, please visit <http://www.jsums.edu> or call the Office of Public Relations at 601-979-2272.

SCHOOL OF GENERAL AND CONTINUING STUDIES

The **School of General and Continuing Studies (SGCS)** offers coursework for academic credit in partnership with all Jackson State University units, community colleges across Mississippi, other educational institutions, and metropolitan learning centers. The school draws upon faculty from the University and adjunct faculty from various government, community, and educational agencies.

■ The Leading Edge for Adults

The school coordinates and provides academic support services to meet these special needs of adult learners: (1) academic classes at traditional and non-traditional hours; (2) classes within the students' communities, to help them maintain a balance among work, family and school; (3) a variety of course delivery modes including online, off campus, weekend classes, satellite, and interactive video transmission; (4) enhancement of knowledge and skills; (5) courses leading to career and life changes; and (6) counseling and advisement services.

■ Get the Education You Want

SGCS offers courses in education, criminal justice, industrial and educational technology, social work, teacher certification, and many more based upon request. This unit also offers certificate programs in leadership studies, project management, paraprofessional studies, and career and life planning.

■ Take Your Career to a New Level: An Interdisciplinary Studies Degree

Interdisciplinary Studies are for adults who want a flexible program that allows students to tailor coursework to meet their personal and professional needs. This program is excellent preparation for changing careers or entry into a variety of graduate school programs or professional careers. Specific program benefits include the opportunity for students to achieve their educational and personal goals; expand their knowledge base by completing a comprehensive, individually-paced plan of study; and offering access to college studies as they balance family life and their current job, while working toward achieving their longer-term career goals.

CENTER FOR ADULT AND CONTINUING EDUCATION

The **Center for Adult and Continuing Education** awards non-academic credit in the form of Continuing Education Units (CEUs), Certificates of Completion, and Certificates of Attendance. The center partners and networks with a variety of agencies and organizations to deliver professional development activities through contractual arrangements. Professional development is delivered to the members of the workforce through innovative technologies and research based strategies.

■ Renew Yourself and Your Career

The Center for Adult and Continuing Education provides personal and professional development activities, mini-workshops, and seminars for non-academic credit. All adult can take advantage of the center including teachers, administrators, counselors, parent/teacher organization members, childcare administrators, pre-service educators, students, local, state and government employees, entrepreneurs, and paraprofessionals.

■ Be a Part of an Education Revival

The Center for Adult and Continuing Education is also the home of the Southwest Mississippi Education Consortium's (SMEC) Regional Education Service Center that currently helps more than 24 school districts in 18 counties meet the professional development needs of their teachers, teaching assistants, and administrators. Educators are able to meet their recertification needs, solve problems, and meet program improvement needs through the center's offerings.

CONTINUING EDUCATION LEARNING CENTER

The **Continuing Education Learning Center (CELC)** consists of the following programs: (1) General Education Development (GED) Preparations and Basic Skills Training; (2) Parenting Skills and Training; and (3) English as a Second Language (ESL). The learning center provides self-paced, individualized, computer-based instruction yearlong. Students can choose from a wealth of subjects including basic literacy, intermediate reading, GED preparation, job specific literacy, pre-employment skills, parenting classes, job centered ethics, computer skills, ESL classes and various enrichment workshops conducted by community leaders.

■ Success is in Our Numbers

Since 1987, the learning center has worked with more than 5,000 adults and older teens, maintaining a constant enrollment of up to 250 learners weekly. The learning center recently hit a milestone – recognizing its 700th GED graduate! Each learner is placed in a curriculum based on 100 hours of training at the learner's level of competency. Seven degreed teachers and a staff of 4 support the learning center. In addition to University funding, the Continuing Education Learning Center is supported by grants, contracts, and donations for student sponsorships. The learning center collaborates with various other non-profit agencies, city, state, and federal programs.

■ Come With or Without an Education

The Continuing Education Learning Center has two convenient sites in Jackson: 1325 Hattiesburg Street and 931 Highway 80W. Each is open Monday – Thursday, 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. and services individuals 17 years of age and older who wish to increase their level of literacy and basic education. Plans are underway to expand the learning center to several nearby communities.

METRO LEARNING CENTERS

The College of Lifelong Learning has become known as "the unit that takes the University to the people" throughout the State of Mississippi, elsewhere in the United States, and worldwide. **Metro Learning Centers** are one approach to accomplishing the mission of the College of Lifelong Learning. They are established in communities where masses of people desire to access higher education and training.

■ Learn Close to Home or Wherever You Want

Metro Learning Centers are designed to meet the needs of adult learners with emphasis on relevance, convenience, and accessibility. By taking classes close to home, during evenings and on weekends, busy adults can find the time they need to maintain their current lifestyle and earn a degree. The centers provide a wide range of services and information related to admissions, financial aid, degree completion, graduate studies, continuing education courses, and printed materials on academic programs, services, and cultural events. By taking classes online, adults can take classes at home, while traveling, or at work – wherever they want.

■ Metro Learning Center Activities

Metro Learning Centers offer a wide variety of academic and non-academic credit activities through the School of General and Continuing Studies, Center for Adult and Continuing Education, and the Continuing Education Learning Center. Academic courses for credit are currently being offered in: interdisciplinary degree studies, education, criminal justice, industrial technology, social work, teacher certification, English as a Second Language (ESL), and many others; but what you learn is not limited to these areas. Workshop, certificate, and institute formats allow you to pursue studies in any interest area upon request.