



FLORIDA SOUTHWESTERN STATE COLLEGE

WORKFORCE EDUCATION

AY 24-25, Issue 1

6 Bachelor's
Degrees

28 Associate
Degrees

29 Certificate
Programs

As we kick off the 2024-2025 academic year, we're thrilled to share exciting developments across our campus. Student enrollment is up by over 3.4% compared to last year, reflecting the growing demand for our programs. We're proud to introduce six new academic offerings, expanding opportunities for our students. Links to each new program are provided below.

[Advanced Medical Assisting, AS](#) | [Medical Assisting Specialist, CCC](#)
[Physical Therapist Assistant, AS](#)
[Supply Chain Management, AS](#) | [Logistics and Transportation Management, CCC](#)
[Social Media Communication, CCC](#)

The School of Business and Technology is celebrating the opening of its newly renovated building on Lee Campus, providing state-of-the-art facilities for learning and innovation. Our Office of Corporate and Community Education is launching fresh community enrichment programs, while the Career Connection Center has a robust lineup of events to connect students to employers and support professional development. Read on to learn about various programs and discover how FSW is enhancing educational opportunities and preparing students for success in the workforce.



Whitney Rhyne
Assistant Vice President
Workforce Education





Advanced Medical Assisting, AS

FSW is proud to introduce the new [Advanced Medical Assisting](#) (AMA) program, addressing the demand for skilled healthcare professionals. The program includes a College Credit Certificate with four embedded industry certificates that stacks to an Associate in Science. Students can earn a total of six industry-recognized certifications, providing maximum flexibility and career advancement opportunities. With over 20% projected growth in medical assistant employment from 2022 to 2032 in Florida, our program prepares students for a rewarding career in one of the fastest-growing occupations in the state. This program equips students with both clinical and administrative skills, ensuring graduates are ready to excel in various healthcare settings. Students in this programs are not just earning a degree – they're investing in a future-proof career that offers stability, growth potential, and the satisfaction of making a difference in patients' lives.



Inaugural AMA Cohort
with Program Director Cass Allbritten

Advanced Medical Assisting (AMA) Stackable Pathway



School of Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences Introduces New Associate Dean



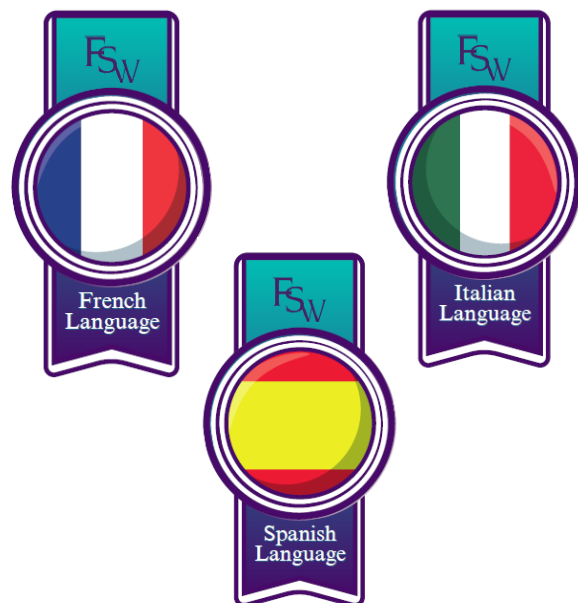
Dr. Jennifer Summary

Associate Dean
School of Arts, Humanities,
and Social Sciences

Dr. Jennifer Summary, a distinguished educator with over a decade of experience in higher education, brings her knowledge and leadership to the role of Associate Dean for the School of Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences. Since joining FSW as faculty in 2017, Dr. Summary has made significant strides, most recently serving as Department Chair of Communications Studies and Foreign Languages. Her academic journey is marked by a commitment to excellence in communication studies, earning her AA from Rend Lake College, followed by both a BA and MA in Communications from Western Illinois University, and culminating in a PhD in Communication Studies from Southern Illinois University Carbondale. Dr. Summary's expertise spans a diverse range of subjects, including Interpersonal Communication, Public Speaking, and Intercultural Communication. Her teaching philosophy emphasizes the practical application of communication theories, and preparing students for success in an increasingly interconnected world.

FSW Launches Language Badges: Recognizing Linguistic Achievement in Spanish, French, and Italian

FSW introduces a system of language badges to recognize and celebrate students' linguistic achievements. These badges are available for Spanish, French, and Italian languages, each offering two levels of proficiency. The first-level badges are earned by completing elementary courses, focusing on introductory language skills and cultural understanding. Students can further enhance their expertise by pursuing second-level badges through intermediate courses, which delve deeper into language mastery and cultural nuances. Each badge represents not just language acquisition, but a holistic approach to communication and cultural competence. This badge system provides students with tangible recognition of their language skills, enhancing their academic profiles and career prospects in an increasingly globalized world. FSW's language badges offer a clear pathway for continuous learning and improvement in foreign language proficiency.





Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN)

Leadership Shadowing

BSN Students Lead Multidisciplinary Training During Leadership Shadowing Experience

FSW's [Bachelor of Science in Nursing](#) (BSN) program is providing students with invaluable real-world experience through its innovative leadership shadowing initiative. As part of the NUR 4827C Leadership in Nursing Practice course, BSN students Bianca Santorini, RN, and Faisha Brown, RN, recently had the opportunity to shadow Professor Hope Goodwin, RN, MSN, CEN, who also serves as the Director of Simulation at Naples Community Hospital. This 24-hour shadowing experience allows students to observe nursing leaders in action, gaining firsthand insights into the complexities



of healthcare leadership. During their clinical experience, Santorini and Brown took their learning to the next level by leading a multidisciplinary simulation training that included medical residents, nurse practitioners, physician assistants, and registered nurses. This hands-on approach not only enhances the students' understanding of leadership roles but also prepares them for the collaborative nature of modern healthcare environments. Professor Goodwin's dual role as an educator and hospital director provides a unique perspective, bridging the gap between academic theory and practical application in the field of nursing leadership.

FSW Hosts SWFHIMA Conference: Connecting Students with Industry Leaders and Awarding Scholarships

FSW's [Health Information Technology](#) (HIT) Program hosted the Southwest Florida Health Information Management Association (SWFHIMA) semiannual educational conference. This event provided a valuable opportunity for all HIT and Medical Information Coder/Biller (MICB) students to attend and network with local health information professionals, bridging the gap between education and industry. The conference highlighted the program's strong community ties, with



SWFHIMA President Laura Ayre, RHIT, CCS, and President-Elect Elizabeth Whitmer, RHIT, CCS, CCS-P, presenting \$500 scholarship checks to two outstanding students: Toni Wilson from the Medical Information Coder program and Ann Marie McLeod-Zamor from the Health Information Technology program. Notably, Elizabeth Whitmer serves as both SWFHIMA President-Elect and full-time faculty in FSW's HIT Program, further underscoring the program's deep connections to the professional world and its dedication to preparing students for successful careers in health information management.



FSW Respiratory Care Program Earns Top National Honor, Propelling Graduates to Career Success

FSW's [Respiratory Care](#) AS Program has achieved a significant milestone, earning the prestigious Distinguished RRT Credentialing Success Award from the Commission on Accreditation for Respiratory Care (CoARC). This esteemed recognition highlights the outstanding quality of FSW's program and also celebrates the exceptional professional achievements of its graduates. The award stands as a testament to the dedication and expertise of Program Director Jean Newberry and her committed faculty team. Their tireless efforts, combined with the hard work and success of the program's graduates, have culminated in this remarkable honor. Importantly, this achievement translates directly to workforce success, with FSW's respiratory care graduates consistently entering the healthcare field as highly skilled, well-prepared professionals, ready to make immediate impacts in their careers. This accomplishment reinforces FSW's position as a leader in respiratory care education and underscores the program's commitment to excellence in preparing skilled healthcare professionals for the demands of the modern medical landscape.



Internships @ FSW

Rising Star: Jasmine Heckerman's Journey at Gulfshore Life

Jasmine Heckerman's internship at Gulfshore Life has proven to be a transformative experience in the world of journalism and marketing. From witnessing the intricate process of publication from draft to print, to honing her skills in InDesign and writing, Jasmine has embraced every opportunity for growth. Her enthusiasm is palpable as she describes the internship as "the best place that she could have landed," expressing a desire to be present for every moment. The vibrant work environment has not only nurtured her talents but also boosted her confidence. Colleagues have noted her remarkable progress, with one remarking, "She has grown to become confident, making valuable recommendations and suggestions." With three online articles already under her belt, Jasmine continues to elevate her craft and expand her horizons in the dynamic field of publication.



Explore Your Future: FSW's Fall 2024 Internship and Career Events

FSW offers a series of events to help students explore career opportunities and internships this fall. Start your journey at the Part-time Job and Internship Fairs: visit the Collier Campus on Tuesday, Sept. 17, or the Lee Campus on Wednesday, Sept. 18. These fairs provide an excellent chance to connect with potential employers and discover exciting opportunities. Following these, don't miss the Internship Exploration Week from Oct. 7-10, 2024. This event offers students a unique opportunity to delve deeper into various career paths and gain valuable insights into the world of internships. For more information about these events and to explore internship possibilities, visit www.fsw.edu/careers or email internships@fsw.edu. Take this chance to shape your future career!

INTERNSHIP Exploration Week



OCT 7	Internship 101: Workshop to Learn About Opportunities	Lee - Q-225 @ 11:30 AM Collier - N-148 @ 11:30 AM Charlotte - J-114 @ 11:30 AM All Campuses - Zoom @ 1:30 PM
OCT 8	Networking Essentials: Session to Gain Valuable Networking Tips	All Campuses - Zoom @ 11:30 AM Lee - Q-225 @ 1:30 PM Collier - N-148 @ 1:30 PM Charlotte - J-114 @ 1:30 PM
OCT 9	Sweeten Your Internship Search: Drop in for Donuts and Resume Review Internship Mixer: Network and Learn About Opportunities	Lee - Q-225 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM Charlotte - J-101 @ 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM Collier - M-203 @ 11:30 AM
OCT 10	Sweeten Your Internship Search: Drop in for Donuts and Resume Review Internship Mixer: Network and Learn About Opportunities	Henry Glades - A-107 @ 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM Lee - U-102 @ 11:30 AM

Connect With Us! FSW Career Connection Center

FLORIDA SOUTHWESTERN STATE COLLEGE WORKFORCE EDUCATION

FSW is an equal access, equal opportunity organization. More: www.fsw.edu/equity

Investing in Excellence: FSW Staff Earn Top-Tier Career Credentials

FSW is proud to announce significant professional development achievements by two of our dedicated Career Connection Center team members.



Carrie Bohling, CCSP
Internship Coordinator
Career Connection Center

Carrie Bohling, our Internship Coordinator, has earned the National Career Development Association (NCDA) Certified Career Services Provider (CCSP) designation after completing a rigorous 12-week course and certification exam.



Katherine Madden, CCP
Career Coordinator
Career Connection Center

Katy Madden, our Career Coordinator has successfully completed the National Association of College and Employers (NACE) intensive 30-hour Coaching Certification Program (CCP), enhancing her skills in advanced career coaching techniques.



These accomplishments underscore FSW's commitment to maintaining a highly qualified staff and reflect our ongoing dedication to student success. With their expanded expertise, Carrie and Katy are poised to provide even more comprehensive career guidance and support, further strengthening FSW's ability to prepare students for successful transitions into the workforce. Students can look forward to benefiting from their advanced knowledge and skills in our career services and internship programs.





CORPORATE & COMMUNITY Education

FSW's Office of Corporate and Community Education is proud to offer customized training solutions for local business and employers, career advancement programs, and community education.



Corporate Training



Career Advancement



Community Programming

Enrich Your Life with FSW's New Community Programming

FSW's fall Community Enrichment Series offers diverse courses to inspire and educate Southwest Florida residents. The program includes both free and paid classes open to all.

Yoga Series

Fort Myers, Lee Campus
Monday at 11:30 am
Thursday at 4:45 pm

Punta Gorda, Charlotte Campus
Monday at 4:45 pm



Paint and Sip

Fort Myers, Lee Campus
Oct. 12 at 4:45 pm
Nov. 15 at 6pm

Naples, Collier Campus
Oct. 23 at 4:45 pm

Punta Gorda, Charlotte Campus
Nov. 20 at 4:45 pm



Technology Courses

- ✓ Iphoneography
- ✓ Tech Tools
- ✓ Tech Tools 2.0



Smart Money Moves: Essential Skills for Financial Empowerment

10/23 at 5:30 pm

Use the QR code to see the schedule of courses and register today!

Corporate.Training@fsw.edu

(239) 489-9105

www.fsw.edu/ce



INTERNSHIP & PART-TIME JOB *FAIR*



Jumpstart your journey: From student to professional



Collier Campus
Tuesday, September 17
Breezeway
11:00 am - 2:00 pm



Lee Campus
Wednesday, September 18
Building U, Room 102
11:00 am - 2:00 pm

Confirmed Employers



Connect With Us!
 FSW Career Connection Centre

FSW is an equal access, equal opportunity organization. More: www.fsw.edu/equity.

FLORIDA
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Career Connection Lecture Series



Law and Leadership with the Honorable Josephine Gagliardi

Monday, September 9 at 6:00 p.m.
Lee Campus: Building AA Room 177



Zoom links available for
C3 lecture series
on Bucs Corner

Healing Hands, Innovative Minds: Exploring the Frontiers of Healthcare Careers



Monday, September 30
Lectures: 10:00 a.m. & Noon
Tabling: 11:20 - Noon
Lee Campus: Building AA Room 177



Thursday, October 3
Noon
Collier Campus
Building M Room 201

Public Service Close to Home: Careers and Opportunities in Local Government



Monday, October 21
6:00 p.m.
Collier Campus: M-201



Tuesday, October 22
Noon
Charlotte Campus: O-124



Wednesday, October 23
10:00 a.m.
Lee Campus: AA-177



Thursday, October 24
11:30 a.m.
H/G Center

From Campus to Career: Alumni Insights on Forging Successful Pathways

Tuesday, October 29
Noon
Lee Campus: U-102



STEM Panel

Tuesday, Nov. 5 at 1:30 p.m. Lee Campus: U-102



Avery Renshaw
Biological Science
Technician



Nicole Setzer
City Engineer



Ben Sylvia
NeoGenomics



FSW Career Connection Center

FLORIDA
SOUTHWESTERN
STATE COLLEGE

WORKFORCE EDUCATION

Student Scholarship Opportunities for Workforce Programs

American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA)

Lee County's Economic Development Office awarded FSW \$1 million providing funding for select credit and non-credit workforce programs. Lee County residents who enroll into ARPA-eligible programs may qualify for funding to cover in-state tuition and fees.

- 11 CCCs and AS programs in FSW's School of Business and Technology
- EMT, CCC offered in FSW's School of Health Professions
- Several programs offered through FSW's Corporate and Community Education



Open Door Grant

FSW received Open Door Grant funding through the Florida Department of Education. These funds will help students fast-track their success in a short-term career and technical education program.

- 45 fundable programs across FSW's five academic schools

See complete list at www.fsw.edu.opendoor



Transforming SWFL 2025

FSW was awarded \$125,000 from the Lee County Industrial Development Authority and \$100,000 from the Elsa and Peter Soderberg Charitable Foundation through the FutureMakers Coalition.

Transforming SWFL Supports:

- [GED Pathway Program](#)
- Second Look
- Last Mile & Gap Funding
- Workforce Pathways



Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act

FSW was awarded a direct allocation of Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) funding to expand pathway to multiple in-demand industry certificates. Participants will be supported through enhanced coursework, supplemental certification test prep, and personalized advising.

WIOA Programs

- [Information Technology Support Specialist, CCC](#)
- [Network Security, CCC](#)
- [Cybersecurity, AS](#)
- [Network Systems, AS](#)
- [Architectural Design and Construction Technology, AS](#)



Use the QR codes provided to learn more about each grant/program.

Email Opportunity@fsw.edu with any questions.