

Fall 2015

NDP News- Fall 2015

NDP Staff

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NDP Tutor—Kabir Avraham

Is writing essays challenging for you? Could you use some help with study skills or organization skills? Perhaps you just want to make sure you are prepared for an exam and want some help reviewing your study material. Help is now available.

The NDP has added a dedicated tutor for all NDP students. Kabir Avraham holds a B.A. in Philosophy with a minor in Asian Studies from NEIU. He is currently enrolled as graduate student here, pursuing an M.A. in Linguistics. His passion is for Socio-Linguistics, as he loves to study different cultures. Kabir plans to follow his Masters Degree by continuing his education, with an end goal on a Ph.D. in Comparative Religions, Anthropology or Philosophy.

Kabir enjoys tutoring because he likes to empower others. He sees one of his greatest strengths as his ability to share what he has learned with others for their benefit. He knows he has made an impact when a student becomes involved in the feedback process. This interaction proves the student is engaged in the topic.

Tutoring by Kabir is only for NDP students. He can work with students needing assistance with essay writing, Humanities classes, Social Science and basic math courses. He can also be a resource for NDP students taking a WIP course in any major. Tutoring is by appointment only, with limited availability nights and weekends. Appointments can be made by contacting Kabir directly, through e-mail at k-avraham@neiu.edu.

Tutoring Tips

Here are some tips to help make sure you get the most out of any tutoring experience:

- Come to your tutoring session prepared. Have a goal in mind and bring all assignment materials with you. Be prepared to communicate what you need, with your tutor.
- Tutoring can only work if you are invested in what you are studying. You must be engaged in the material to make the effort worth your time and the tutor's time.
- Not all tutors are right for all students. Just like students, tutors come in all sizes and shapes. Tutors have different strengths and weaknesses which can compliment a students needs, or not.

You may get lucky and find the first tutor you work with is perfect. If this is not the case, please make sure you seek out another tutor who might be better matched to your needs.

Lynn Barone, Creating a Prior Learning Portfolio

Like many NDP students, Lynn Barone is a working mother and wife who knew she would someday find herself with an empty nest. She had been trained as a court reporter, a field that allowed her flexibility to accommodate her family's needs'. She first heard about the BAIS program over five years ago, at which time she learned that her court-reporting school credits would not transfer due to lack of proper accreditation. Her determination led her to start taking community college classes one at a time just to satisfy her lower division requirements.

Lynn found out about the Prior Learning Portfolio option through her BAIS Advisor. One of her Upper Division classes required a semester long project called "My Big Hairy Audacious Goal". This project provided the motivation and opportunity Lynn needed to create her portfolio. She attended one of the Portfolio Writing Workshops offered by NDP and began her portfolio. Lynn was working between 20-40 hours a week and attending classes full-time. In spite of her full schedule and having received a deadline for her class project, Lynn completed her entire portfolio in just ten weeks, earning 65.5 of the 69.5 credit hours she requested. Lynn is now able to identify herself as a B.A.I.S. Alumni, class of 2015, a status she can claim due to credits earned through her Prior Learning Portfolio.

If you need some motivation to get the ball rolling with regard to your portfolio, a workshop may be just what you need. Please contact NDP@NEIU.edu to register for a workshop.

NDP Student Appreciation Week

National Nontraditional Student Week Nov 2-6

On Wednesday and Thursday, November 4 & 5, the Nontraditional Degree Programs office marks this occasion by showcasing our programs and our students. We will have a table located in front of our office suite to showcase our programs. Students and faculty will be there to meet and greet students and prospective students.

Stop by and say hi to show your support for our programs.

Scholarships for NDP

Each semester, the NDP program offers merit based scholarships to students who demonstrate academic excellence. If you need a scholarship application, please email : NDP@neiu.edu

New NDP Staff Member

Ed Porter is the new Office Support Assistant in NDP (B-147). Ed grew up in Memphis, TN where he earned a B.A. in Theater from Rhodes College.

Ed is interested in earning his M.A. in Clinical Mental Health Counseling. He has been accepted to the graduate program at NEIU for the Spring 2016 semester. He has found many crossover skills between acting and counseling such as listening, empathy and seeing the world through others' filters. His desire is to help other people and sees counseling as a great way to leave a lasting impact in others' quality of life.

In his new role as the NDP Office Support Assistant, Ed offers direct assistance to the NDP Director with a variety of functions. He purchases office supplies, monitors the office budget and oversees most administrative tasks in addition to maintaining the NDP webpage. He schedules staff appointments with students and faculty, and is in charge of NDP communication with students. Ed is the first face many students see and the first voice many students hear.

NDP Scholarship Winners

Congratulations to these NDP students who have been awarded merit-based NDP tuition scholarships for the Summer and Fall 2015 semesters:

Andre Brown	Rita Caravette
Dale Carter	Elizabeth Curtis
Lyanne Guiracocha	Elzbieta Jakubczak
Isyemille Lara	Beth McDermott
Peter McInerney	Herman Miller Jr
Kevin Mulka	Waheeda Nasser
Gloria Ortiz	Bogumila Pachucka
Nina Page	Brian Parker
Vivian Pope	Candace Powell
Lynn Roth	

DIVVY Bike Discounts Available

You may have noticed those racks of blue bikes popping up all over the city. These bikes are part of a bike sharing program called DIVVY. Riders can purchase an annual membership allowing for unlimited 30 minute rides, 24/7. DIVVY bike stations are currently located in neighborhoods from Andersonville to Hyde Park. Many DIVVY bike kiosks are conveniently situated near train stops along CTA lines.

This summer, BAIS Alumni and Graduate Research Student, Erica Krueger facilitated the process of aligning NEIU Green Fee Committee with a contact at DIVVY. This resulted in NEIU partnering with DIVVY to offer students a discounted annual membership fee. A DIVVY bike kiosk is located between BBH and the WTTW parking lot on St. Louis Avenue.

DIVVY members can download apps which show the number of bikes and open docks at every station, in real time. For more information on how to get your student discount please visit the NEIU page: <http://www.neiu.edu/university-life/divvy-student-memberships>

Earn Credit Hours with Exams

One advantage of being an NDP student is the flexibility in obtaining the credit hours needed for satisfactory degree completion. NDP students have the option of testing out of over 40 subjects. These test subjects include CLEP exams as well as baccalaureate and upper level baccalaureate competency exams., offered through D.S.S.T. Our advisors can help you determine which tests will be right for your educational goals, please make an advising appointment for more information.

If you think this might work for you, please check out the websites:

<https://clep.collegeboard.org/>
<http://getcollegecredit.com/>

NDP 1 credit hour courses

Did you know that the NDP program offers two courses that are each worth one credit hour? Students can earn two credit hours at the 300 level, while learning valuable skills. These two classes are:

Library Research and

Time and Project Management.

These classes explore the world of library research and time and project management in the 21st century. Both of these classes are worth one credit hour only. They are scheduled so that you will be finished with the class by the time you are halfway through the semester! If you are planning on continuing to a graduate program, both of these classes will greatly contribute to your future success.

Is a Prior Learning Assessment in Your Future?

It is possible to get credit for prior learning experiences which may have presented themselves in the course of your lifetime. Many of these opportunities arise in the workplace, but some may come from the pursuit of personal interests as well. If you are considering creating a prior learning portfolio, please read the statements below and check all that apply to you.

- ☐ I am currently enrolled in or planning to enroll in the B.A.I.S. Program
- ☐ I have professional background which includes exposure to a variety of learning opportunities and experiences
- ☐ I have received formal or informal training which will not qualify for transfer credit
- ☐ I have any military training or volunteer work that may be used for prior learning credit
- ☐ I hold professional certifications, licenses or awards which highlight my learning experience
- ☐ My knowledge and skills in this field are current
- ☐ My knowledge and skills can be measured
- ☐ My prior learning satisfies the requirements for an identifiable academic discipline
- ☐ I would be interested in taking a college credit course on assembling a prior learning portfolio

If you checked one or more of these statements, please make an appointment to talk with your advisor about whether or not a prior learning assessment is right for you.

Remote Printing Feature

All NEIU students are able to send documents created off sight to any of the copy machines located around campus. Once you send a document to the printing queue, it will be available to print 24 hours. Here is the link for you to access this service: <https://print.neiu.edu>. From this page click on the box that says Wireless Print and follow the prompts.

NDP Office Staff Fall 2015

The NDP Office, B-147 is fully staffed with people who are here to help you every day.

Please stop in and get to know the team:

Dr. Kim Sanborn—Director
 Dr. Shelley Bannister—Faculty Advisor UWW
 Ms. Jennifer Blair—Program Specialist
 Ms. Jacqueline Butler—Program Specialist
 Ms. Erica Krueger—Grad Assistant BAIS Program
 Ms. Justine Westey—Grad Assistant UWW Program
 Ms. Trease Sockol—Office Support Specialist
 Mr. Ed Porter—Office Support Assistant

Angelina Pedroso Center

The Angelina Pedroso Center for Diversity and Intercultural Affairs honors all differences, fosters leadership, promoting diversity, intersectionality, and social justice in a student-centered environment. Room B-149

LGBTQA Resource Ctr. & Student Affairs

Steven Loveless Director
S-Loveless@neiu.edu

African and African American Resource Center

Meagan Mitchell Director
m-mitchell4@neiu.edu

Women's Resource Center

Joanna Snawder Director and Deputy Title IX Coordinator
j-snawder@neiu.edu

Latino Resource Center

Maria Genao-Homs Director
m-genao-homs@neiu.edu

Asian and Global Resource Center

Yasmin Ranney Director
y-ranney@neiu.edu

Stage Center Theater

This November, the Stage Center Theater will be performing "Wealth", an irreverent comedy, adapted from Aristophanes and directed by John Bliss. This play highlights the state of economic disparity which makes up our reality. It looks at the proverbial question "How do the rich keep getting ahead while the working class never seems to get ahead?" The play will be showing November 12,13,14,19 and 20 at 7:30 in addition to November 21 at 2:00pm and 7:30pm.

For early Spring, 2016, the theatre will be presenting "In the Blood" by Suzan-Lori Parks and directed by Angie Sweigert-Gallagher. "In the Blood" centers around Hester, a homeless mother of five, struggling with poverty. The story examines her life with her children and the contradictions with how she is viewed by society. This production will run February 25,26,27 plus March 3 and 4 at 7:30 pm

MLRC—what they have to offer

If you have yet to become familiar with the Multi-Media Learning Resource Center (MLRC), this semester might be the right time for you to get to know them. The center can be found on the 3rd floor of the Ronald Williams Library. You will need to show your student ID to get in, but once you do, a whole world of technology will be at your feet. There are computer terminals and printers for student use. In addition to these basic technologies, the lab can also accommodate any need to edit audio/visual creations.

New to the center is audio/visual equipment that can be used by all NEIU students. You will need to show your student ID to check out equipment, rental is free for up to 3 days. The center also boasts a soundproof room which can be used to record audio components for your projects.

Health and Counseling Services

All students have access to mental health and counseling services. These services are offered at no charge each semester. For details on services available please see their webpage: <http://www.neiu.edu/university-life/student-health-and-counseling-services>

What Would You Like to Read About in Our Next Newsletter?

Is there a topic you would like us to report on, someone on campus you would like to see interviewed or an event you would like to have us highlight? Please send suggestions for future newsletter articles, interviews or announcements to NDP@NEIU.edu.

Campus Recreation

If you are a fitness buff and enrolled at NEIU, please take a look at the P.E. Building and all it has to offer. For starters, the complex boasts 5 gymnasium court areas, a climbing wall, an elevated track, racquetball courts, a fitness center and an 8 lane 25ft. long pool with a diving area. These facilities are available for use anytime the facility is open.

Do your kids want to learn to swim, do you? Each student is allowed to bring two immediate family members into the complex as guests, on Wednesdays from 3-10PM, Fridays from 3-7PM and Saturdays from 9 AM– 3PM. The recreation program offers swimming lessons for all ages from Pre-school—Adult. Here is the link to the information about the swimming programs: <https://apm.activecommunities.com/crneiu>

Do you workout with a personal trainer? Campus Recreation offers student packages with discounted rates. Please contact Martha Montes, for more information: m-montes1@neiu.edu.

Are you interested in fitness classes such as Yoga, Zumba, Athletic Training or Body Conditioning? These are among the many structured fitness classes offered through Campus Recreation. Here is where you can find more information: <http://www.neiu.edu/university-life/campus-recreation/>

Campus Tutoring Resources

Have you checked out the library recently? The Ronald Williams Library has many hidden treasures within its walls, and I am not just talking about books! On the 4th floor, you will find the Learning Support Center, available to fulfill your tutoring needs. For a list of all services available, please visit their site:

<http://www.neiu.edu/university-life/learning-support-center>

The Center for Academic Writing is dedicated to providing tutor support for students taking a WIP course. If you are unsure of your writing skills the Center is a great resource available during the semester you are in a WIP class. The Center hires only high performing WIP former students as peer tutors. Here is the link to their website:

<http://www.neiu.edu/academics/center-academic-writing>