



University of Wisconsin
Whitewater

CONNECTIONS: The Wisconsin Idea

Stories and News from The School
of Graduate Studies and Continuing Education

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Celebrating 40 Years of Lifelong Learning

Since 1983, UW-Whitewater faculty and staff have presented public lectures and led community conversations.

Once dubbed "one of Whitewater's best kept secrets," the [Fairhaven Lecture Series](#) has become a well-known tradition, engaging our community and transforming lives. This fall kicks off 40 years of the Series, showcasing some of UWW's award-winning faculty, staff, and programs in nine free lectures, open to all.

Lectures are held at 3pm on Monday afternoons at [Fairhaven Senior Services](#), just east of campus. "The partnership we have with Fairhaven allows us to bring the Wisconsin Idea to life by sharing the expertise of our faculty with the greater Whitewater community," says Matt Vick, dean of the School of Graduate Studies and Continuing Education. To date, more than 400 presenters have led nearly 900 conversations with an estimated 18,000+ attendees in the four decades the Series has been held.

Topics in this fall's anniversary series include ancient reefs, public discourse, the Supreme Court, and food and memories. Visit our [website](#) for a full schedule with descriptions. Videos from past lectures on everything from the Atomic Bomb to Carnegie Hall can be found in our [video library](#).

Looking for more lectures beyond Whitewater? Join us in Janesville for our [Cedar Crest](#) Lecture Series. Held on four Thursday afternoons at 2pm, we'll be exploring culture and conflict in the Civil War era. Lincoln, medicine, celebrity and Gettysburg will all be discussed at these free lectures open to all. They are held at Cedar Crest Senior Living, 1702 South River Road in Janesville, just a few blocks north of the Rock County campus. More information on our [website](#). Join us, won't you?

University of
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Summer Camps Break Participation Records

UW-Whitewater hosted the most youth campers in its 50-year history!

Summer camps have been a vital part of UW-Whitewater's history since 1973, and in its 50th year, we set record-setting participation. More than 6,740 people participated in UWW's summer camps and clinics, breaking the previous record set in 2015. In addition to those participating in its homegrown athletic, arts, and STEM programs, more than 7,000 additional people experienced the UWW campus through partner events, such as Special Olympics State Summer Games and Madison Scouts Marching Band.

Several camps had record participation in 2023 including [Football](#) (2,031), [Volleyball](#) (1,051), [Boys Basketball](#) (155), [Boys High School Soccer](#) (80), [Jazz](#) (49), and [Game Development](#) (45). Many other popular camps returned with high registration numbers including [Tennis](#), [Band](#), [Gymnastics](#), and [College for Kids](#). [Grandchildren's University](#) returned for the first time since the pandemic and new camps were added, including [Rock, Pop, and Music Production](#) in Whitewater and [Music Explorers](#) on the Rock campus.



Inclusivity and belonging are part of the priority mission of UW-Whitewater. Summer camps put the mission into practice by providing events like [Wheelchair Basketball](#) camp, hosted by national champion teams, and [Chatter Matters](#), a camp serving individuals who use assistive communication devices and their families. In addition, UWW maintains a 1:10 ratio of camp staff to camper for all youth programming and prides itself in youth protection training for all faculty, staff, coaches, and volunteers involved in leading programming.

"UW-Whitewater has built a reputation of offering exceptional programming, in state-of-the-art facilities, at affordable prices," says Morgan Anderson, Director, [Camps & Conferences](#). "Camps offer spaces for kids to be kids, disconnect from devices and reconnect with activities they love. Through camps, youth are developing life skills that will serve them well, long after camp is over."

Registration for some of the most popular camps begins in November with all camps registration open in January. Music, athletic, and academic events for youth are also held throughout the academic year. Visit our [website](#) for more information.



Program Spotlight: Partners in Education

UW-High school students earn college credit for a reduced cost while still in high school.

[Partners in Education \(PIE\)](#) is UW-Whitewater's dual enrollment program which connects high school students to UWW curriculum, building a pathway for successful transition to college. Students enroll in PIE designated courses, which are taught in the supportive context of their high schools by district faculty who meet UWW requirements as instructors. The syllabus, assignments, and requirements for the course are identical to those taught at UWW, and the credit earned appears on an official UWW transcript. Credit can count towards a future degree at UWW, or be transferred to another accredited university.

Since 2012, UWW has partnered with dozens of school districts around the state to offer coursework to thousands of students. UWW has had long standing partnerships with Whitewater, Wilmot, and Kettle Moraine school districts, and has welcomed many more in the past decade, including Cambria-Friesland, Cedarburg, West Bend and Brookfield Central this year. Many introductory courses in disciplines like chemistry, communication, and computer science are available to students, along with courses on creative writing, math, and political science. New this year are courses in biology and Spanish, as well as online offerings in accounting, communication sciences and disorders, and health offered to high schoolers across the state. An average of 200 students enroll in PIE courses each semester.

"Students get an opportunity to jump start their college careers with the PIE program," says coordinator Stacie Collins.

"Classes give them the experience and confidence to see themselves in the college classroom in the future." PIE also provides valuable professional development for the high school teachers leading the courses. "PIE teachers work closely with their UWW mentor to ensure that content is college-level and they are offered a professional development opportunity at the end of each school year," says Collins. "It's a really valuable experience for students, teachers, and faculty alike."



Welcome Back, Adult Student Outreach and Community-Based Learning

SGSCE welcomes back [Adult Student Outreach \(ASO\)](#) and [Community-Based Learning \(CBL\)](#) to the unit this fall.

Led by Lauren Smith, director and Kevin DeCoux student services coordinator, ASO provides resources and support for prospective and current students who are over 25, returning to college, parents, military service members or who otherwise have needs that differ from those of traditional age college students.

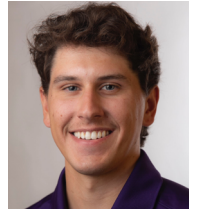
The CBL program connects UW-Whitewater faculty with community partners to engage students in service learning and community-based research. Led by Jodie Parys, CBL fosters a campus community that is characterized by inclusive excellence for all students at UWW.

"The work of our unit extends beyond the classroom and we serve many stakeholders outside the traditional undergraduate student," says dean Matt Vick. "We look forward to working with ASO and CBL to increase the impact of SGSCE."

Welcome Evan, Luke and Dante

School of Graduate Studies and Continuing Education welcomes new staff members.

Evan Arnold is serving as the Youth Protection and Event Specialist in Continuing Education Services. In this role, he interprets policy, builds youth protection practices and procedures, and ensures compliance for numerous camps and conferences. Prior to joining CES, Evan graduated from UWW with a degree in psychology with a minor in professional coaching. In his free time, he loves to travel, be with family, watch sports, and coach lacrosse. He is also, the Founder, President, and CEO for Step up to the Plate Foundation, where he helps provide baseball equipment to in need and at-risk children around the world. Evan says his favorite part of the job so far is "building relationships, not only within the CES department, but also with the camp/conference directors on campus."



Also a recent graduate of UW-Whitewater, Luke Klubertanz now holds a degree in computer science and is serving as the IT Registration and Website specialist for the unit. He has a wide variety of tasks supporting the IT needs of SGSCSCE programs, including those which some might find monotonous but he views as significant achievements. In his free time, he enjoys video games, board games and card games alike. Luke has a great sense of humor and is optimistic about his work on campus. Most of all he is "looking forward to finding an apartment closer to Whitewater to cut down his nearly two-hour round-trip commute from Janesville!"



Dante Poe began his work as an Analytics, Website, and IT Professional for the unit in August 2023. Prior to his work at UWW, Dante completed a business analytics and information systems program at the University of South Florida and worked as a junior compliance analyst at NextBank International. In addition to his role with SGSCSCE, Dante is pursuing a master's degree in cybersecurity from UWW.

News and Upcoming Events:

Even though the days are getting shorter, and winter is around the corner, your gardening tasks are not done yet! Join us for the [Fall Gardening for a Winter-Ready Landscape](#) workshop, an overview of gardening practices for pest prevention, plant protection, and garden/lawn preparation. We will discuss garden clean-up in relation to diseases, insects, and wildlife food; fall lawn care, protecting susceptible plants from snow/cold damage and more. Free! Registration required.



Award-winning and best-selling author Rod Vick visits campus on October 3 for a [Whodunit Mystery Challenge](#). In this 7-clue, audience participation puzzle, Rod will tell you why he loves mysteries and reveal his tricks for crafting them. Solve the mystery, win a book! Vick's books will be available for sale after this fun event during Halloween season.



By 2035, the number of people 65 and over will exceed the number of children under 18. Are you prepared for our graying population, at home, at work or in social settings? Learn more in [Understanding Aging](#), a two-week, fully online program that you can complete at times that are convenient to you. Course begins October 1.

Are you thinking of a career advancement or change? Continuing Education offers [advanced career training programs](#) that lead to professional positions in high demand fields like [medical billing and coding](#), [veterinary assistant](#), and [HVAC/R technician](#). Looking for individual classes? We have those too. Hundreds of flexible, affordable [online classes](#) with start dates each month, with titles like [Project Management Fundamentals](#), [Discover Sign Language](#), and [Genealogy Basics](#) will help you meet your career, educational, and lifelong learning goals.



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