2015 – 2016 Golden Lions Club Sponsors
Discounts for RVCC

Affinity Federal Credit Union (Main)
315 Route 206 North, Suite 501
Hillsborough, NJ 08844
908-860-7399
www.affinityfcu.org

or

Affinity @ Raritan Valley Community College
118 Lamington Road, Room C-208
Branchburg, NJ 08876
908-860-7386
Discount – Free credit union benefits, call for more details.

Amazon Fulfillment
50 New Canton Way
Robbinsville, NJ 08691
609-223-4426
www.amazonfulfillment.com/opportunities
Job Offer – We are seeking talented people looking to invent, innovate and collaborate. Grow your career with us.

New Jersey National Guard
SSG O’Neil Davis
1060 Hamilton Street
Somerset, NJ 08873
732-887-0231
www.nationalguard.com
Discount – 100% free tuition to all NJ State Colleges

PNC Bank
204 Raritan Valley College Drive
Branchburg, NJ 08876
908-725-7968
www.pnc.com/studentbanking
Discount – FREE checking for students. FREE checking for employees and alumni with a qualifying direct deposit.

Rita’s Italian Ice @ Whitehouse Station
547 Route 22
Whitehouse Station, NJ 08889
908-534-0152
www.ritasfranchises.com/whitehousestation
Discount – 20% discount with RVCC ID.

Rutgers University @ Raritan Valley Community College
University Center
118 Lamington Road, Somerset Hall-1st Floor
Branchburg, NJ 08876
908-526-1200 x8986
http://rutgersatrvcc.org
Transfer Information – Rutgers@RVCC currently offers B.A. degrees in Criminal Justice, Psychology, Liberal Studies, Political Science and Social Work. Please contact kbirck@docs.rutgers.edu if you would like more information.

Note: The merchants participating in the “Golden Lions Club” sponsorship program have partnered with RVCC and agreed to offer RVCC students, alumni and employees discounts on products or services that they offer upon showing a valid RVCC ID (unless otherwise noted). Some restrictions may apply where the offer may not be combined with other offers and discounts, sale items, special orders or purchases may be excluded. Ask about the details of the “special offer” prior to making your purchase. For a comprehensive listing of discounts, transfer information or job offers provided by our partners, please visit us online at http://www.raritanval.edu/studentserv/slife/StudentDiscounts.html#Golden_Lions_Club_Sponsors. For more information stop by the Student Life Office located on the 1st floor of the Bateman Student Center, email us at studentlife@raritanval.edu or call us at 908-218-8873.
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Remember, safety is everyone’s responsibility!
  • Security and/or Campus Emergencies: 908.231.8800
  • Anonymous TIPS Hotline: 908.231.8806
  • For more information, please refer to the Safety and Security section of this handbook.
Dear Students:

Welcome to Raritan Valley Community College. I’m delighted that you’ve made the decision to attend our College and I’m honored to welcome you to our exciting and dynamic community.

As you’ll soon discover, you’re joining a campus community that is dedicated to your success. We want you to realize your goals and your dreams – and we are all committed to helping you in any way we can. We believe that Raritan Valley transforms lives – we know that it will transform yours.

We also think that learning takes place both within and outside the classroom. In class, you’ll quickly discover an innovative and passionate faculty, a faculty that will ask you to engage in active collaborative learning. You’ll have many opportunities to engage in small group work and to develop your critical thinking skills. We’ll help you to solve problems, to write with clarity and purpose, to practice ethical reasoning, and to recognize the importance of civic engagement.

Whether you plan to transfer to a four-year institution or whether you plan to begin your career, the RV faculty will prepare you for that future.

You’ll also soon discover that Raritan Valley offers you just as exciting opportunities outside the classroom. The College is home to endless student clubs and organizations. The campus is alive with special events – provocative speakers, timely roundtables, critically acclaimed films, cutting edge theatre, and concerts for every musical taste. There are newly upgraded athletic facilities, a new student center that has quickly become a favorite campus gathering place, and a re-energized sports program.

We’re a national leader in service learning. Here, you can make a real difference in the life of your community. The campus is also home to a Planetarium, an observatory, and a 1,000-seat theatre. There’s a new science center addition being built and a $10 million workforce training center set to open next year.

Raritan Valley is a special place. Everything is here for you to “seize the day.” Jump right in. Take advantage of these rich opportunities; test yourself; try something new; say “yes” to that new invitation. Discover who you are – discover that potential, that passion – there’s no telling where this journey ends.

You’ve already taken that first step – and we’re ready to join you as you move forward.

I wish you every success and I wish you a wonderful year.

Best wishes,

Michael J. McDonough, President
Raritan Valley Community College Mission Statement
Raritan Valley Community College is an educational community that works to develop critical thinking, foster intellectual curiosity, promote leadership, encourage social responsibility, support personal growth, and sustain engaged citizenship within a diverse population of students and community members.

College Diversity Statement
Raritan Valley Community College values all aspects of diversity including but not limited to race, sexual orientation, religion, age, sex, national origin, disability, socioeconomic status, and political and philosophical perspectives. We rely on diversity to enrich the intellectual environment for students and employees. We support educational access and opportunity by recruiting and retaining a diverse college community. We foster diversity by developing and maintaining curricular and social programs that infuse the contributions of all people, and by preparing students to excel in a global society. Our commitment to diversity is reflected in the College’s Mission Statement and Strategic Goals, all of which support excellence in teaching, learning and professional development in a welcoming and respectful climate.

College Affirmative Action/EEO Statement
Raritan Valley Community College is firmly committed to a policy of Equal Opportunity and Affirmative Action, and will implement the policy to assure that the benefits, services, activities, programs and employment opportunities offered at the institution are available to all persons regardless of race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, age, sex, marital status, religion, affectional or sexual orientation, gender identification and expression, atypical hereditary cellular or blood trait, genetic information, liability for service in the Armed Forces of the United States, or disability, and in accordance with the state and Federal Laws: Title IX, Title VII, Civil Rights Act of 1964; Executive Order 11246, as amended; Title IX, Educational Amendments of 1972; section 503 and 504, Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended; Veteran’s Assistance Act of 1972; as amended.

Are you on a path to reach your goals?
All students need a semester-by-semester academic plan. Careful planning may save you time and money. Make an appointment in the First Year Advising Office (C143) or the Advising and Counseling Office (C163) during your first semester so you are sure you on the right track.
Academic Calendar 2015-16

Fall Session 2015

September 2 ................................................................. First Day of Classes (Wednesday)
September 7 ............................................................... Labor Day – College Closed (Monday)
November 25 ......................................................... College Open – No Academic Classes (Wednesday)
November 26-29 ........................................... Thanksgiving Recess – College Closed (Thursday–Sunday)
December 14 .............................................................. Last Day of Classes (Monday)
December 15 ............................................................... Reading Day – No classes or exams (Tuesday)
December 16-22 ................................................ Final Exams (Wednesday-Tuesday)
December 24- January 1 ........................................ Winter Recess – College Closed

Inter-Session 2016

January 4 ................................................................................ Session Begins (Monday)
January 15 ............................................................................ Last Day of Session (Friday)

Spring Session 2016

January 18 ................................................................. MLK Jr. Day Observed - College Closed (Monday)
January 19 ................................................................. First Day of Classes (Tuesday)
March 7-12 ................................................................. Spring Recess – No Academic Classes (Monday–Saturday)
May 2 ................................................................. Last Day of Classes (Monday)
May 3 ................................................................. Reading Day – No classes or exams (Tuesday)
May 4-10 ................................................................. Final Exams (Wednesday-Tuesday)
May 14 ................................................................. Commencement (Saturday)

Summer Session 2016

Session I (6 weeks) ........................................... May 16 (Monday)-June 24 (Friday)
(College closed May 27-30 for Memorial Day Holiday)
Session II (6 weeks) ....................................... July 5 (Tuesday)-August 12 (Friday)
Session III (9 weeks) ......................................... June 6 (Monday)-August 12 (Friday)
Summer Break ......................................................... June 27 (Monday)-July 4 (Monday)
(No academic classes, College closed July 1-4)
The ABC’s of Raritan Valley Community College

Academic Departments

Business & Public Safety: Hunterdon Hall- 314 ...................................................... Pattiann Kletz, Chair
Communication & Languages: Somerset Hall-252 .............................................. Kevin Hinkle, Chair
Computer Science: West Building-323 ................................................................. John Sullivan, Chair
English: Somerset Hall-333A .............................................................................. Barbara Bretcko, Chair
Health Science Education: Hunterdon Hall-218 ................................................. Beryl Stetson, Chair
Humanities, Social Science & Education: Somerset Hall-331 .............................. Steve Kaufman, Chair
Mathematics: Somerset Hall- 236 ........................................................................ Lynne Kowski, Chair
Science & Engineering: Whitman Science Center-111 ........................................ Sarah Imbriglio, Chair
Visual and Performing Arts: Arts Building-09 ....................................................... Dennis Russo, Chair

Academic Support Center (Tutoring)

Location: Lower Level, Somerset Hall S-020

Hours: Monday through Thursday 9 am – 8 pm; Friday 9 am – 3 pm; Saturday 10 am – 2 pm; check website for Summer & Winter session hours

Email: asctutor@raritanval.edu

Phone: 908-526-1200 ext. 8393, 8413 or 8549

The Academic Support Center (ASC) offers academic support to students as they become independent, successful, life-long learners. Services offered include free tutoring, open areas for studying/homework, computer stations with educational software, reference materials, manipulative learning tools and online tutoring. Services are free of charge and available to all College students on a drop-in basis.

Academic Advising

Location: College Center, First Floor C-165

Drop-In Hours: Monday & Thursday 8:30 am – 6:30 pm; Tuesday & Wednesday 8:30 am – 5:30 pm; Friday 8:30 am – 4:30 pm. Extended hours before the start of the Fall and Spring semesters.

Phone: 908-526-1200 ext. 8336

Students are encouraged to see an academic advisor for assistance with academic planning, advice on course selection, program choice and change of program, transfer planning, and consultation regarding academic difficulties. Students can meet with an academic advisor during Drop-In hours; schedule an appointment by calling 908- 526 1200, ext. 8336 or email us atacs@raritanval.edu.
**Art Gallery**

**Location:** Lower Level, College Center  
**Hours:** Open for exhibitions only  
**Phone:** 908-218-8876 (Visual and Performing Arts, VAPA, Department)

The gallery offers a variety of art exhibitions throughout the year.

**Athletics & Recreation**

**Location:** Second Floor, Physical Education Building  
**Hours:** Athletics Office: Monday through Friday 9:00 am to 5:00 pm  
Facilities: As Posted  
**Phone:** 908-218-8868 (Athletics Department)  
**Email:** rvccathletics@raritanval.edu  
**Website:** www.RVCCathletics.com

Both competitive intercollegiate athletic programs and non-competitive recreational opportunities offered. Intercollegiate teams compete as a member of the NJCAA and Region XIX. Athletic teams include men’s baseball, men’s basketball, men’s cross country and men’s soccer, women’s softball, women’s basketball, women’s volleyball, women’s cross country and women’s soccer. Various recreational intramurals are also offered throughout the Fall and Spring Semesters for all students. Indoor features include a fitness room, six-lane heated pool, and gymnasium. Outdoor features include three basketball courts, a baseball diamond; a softball field, a soccer field and a six-lane track.

**Bookstore**

**Location:** Lower Level corridor between College Center and Somerset Hall  
**Normal Hours of Operation:** Monday through Thursday 8:00 am – 6:00 pm; Friday 8:00 am – 3:00 pm. For extended hours during the start of classes, summer schedule, and any holiday closings please visit us at www.raritanvalshop.com.  
**Phone:** 908-231-8808  
**Website:** www.raritanvalshop.com

The Golden Lion Bookstore provides a wide array of choices for student’s academic and everyday needs. Students can purchase or rent most books in either the digital or physical text format. The bookstore is also home to a great selection of Golden Lion gear like t-shirts, hats, and sweatshirts. When on campus, shop The Golden Lion Bookstore for gift items, gift cards, art supplies, school supplies, snacks, and beverages. Check the Golden Lion Bookstore website for updates on textbook buyback and updated store hours.

**Career Services**

**Location:** First Floor, College Center Suite C-116  
**Hours:** Monday through Friday 9:00 am – 5:00 pm; evenings by appointment  
**Contact:**  
Career counseling appointments: 908-526-1200 ext. 8334, cbazar@raritanval.edu  
Internship and Cooperative Learning information: 908-526-1200 ext. 8213, ahermo-w@raritanval.edu  
Job search assistance: 908-526-1200 ext. 8338, wschnall@raritanval.edu
Career counseling, internship and cooperative learning opportunities and job search assistance are available for current students and alumni. Students are encouraged to begin their career planning early, by completing the FOCUS online career planning program located in the Lion’s Den-Student Services tab and meeting with a Career Counselor. Career planning programs are offered throughout the school year and include career decision-making; resume writing; interviewing; networking, social networking for the job search and more. Check the Lion’s Den and the Career Service’s website for announcements and online workshops. Appointments are also available for career counseling, job search assistance, resume writing, and mock interviewing. Information on majors, careers, internships, and employment opportunities on Lion’s Den.

**Career Planning Tips**

- Planning for the future early helps people stay motivated!
- Take advantage of career planning to discover occupations that fit best.
- Learn more about careers through the FOCUS program, campus career workshops, and the Career Services web page.
- Get real world experience and explore career paths by participating in a paid or unpaid internship/co-op.
- Use the College Central Network jobs and internships database to upload a resume and locate a job or internship.
- Design a resume that gets noticed! Have a resume reviewed by the appropriate contact (jobs/internships) below.

**Children’s Campus (Day Care Center)**

**Location:** Adjacent to Parking Lot 4  
**Hours:** Monday through Friday 7:30 am – 6 pm  
**Phone:** 908-231-8807  

The center is open twelve months a year to provide a combined child care service and learning environment for infants and children between the ages of 3 months to five years. Priority registration is given to RV students, employees and faculty. Children from the surrounding communities are accepted on a space-available basis once the priority registration period for each semester has been concluded. Tuition is charged based on the number of half or full days the children attend. Appointments to see the center are recommended.

**Counseling Services**

**Location:** First Floor, College Center C-165  
**Hours:** Fall & Spring Semesters: Monday & Thursday 8:30 am – 7 pm; Tuesday & Wednesday 8:30 am – 6 pm; Friday 8:30 am – 5 pm  
**Phone:** 908-526-1200 ext. 8336  

Counselors are available to provide short-term counseling for personal problems. If you are feeling depressed or anxious we encourage you to talk with a counselor. When appropriate, referrals will be arranged with mental health centers and other community resources. Do not hesitate to ask for help when you need it.
**Credit Union**

**Location:** Second Floor, College Center C-208, across from the cafeteria

**Hours:** Monday through Thursday 10 am – 2 pm

As a student, your family and household members are eligible for a free, lifetime membership in Affinity Federal Credit Union. In addition to services such as free checking accounts, low APR education loans and home loans with low rates and closing costs, free education and guidance is available to support your overall financial health. This includes coaching to help you set up a budget or improve your credit score, investment & insurance consultation, assistance to locate and negotiate a great price on a car, and more.

**Disability Service**

**Location:** First Floor, College Center C-143

**Hours:** Monday through Friday 8:30 am – 5 pm; additional hours by appointment

**Phone:** 908-526-1200 ext. 8418 or ext. 8247

The College provides services in accordance with federal legislative guidelines and RV Policies and Procedures. If you are a student with disabilities and have questions or want to request accommodations, please contact the Office of Disability Services. Instructions regarding the application process and documentation requirements are available online within Disability Services Student handbook.

**Eating Places on Campus**

**Locations:** Dining Hall – Second Floor, College Center
Brew Ha Ha Café – Lower Level, Somerset Hall

**Hours:** Fall & Spring semesters

**Dining Hall:** Monday through Thursday 7:30 am – 6:30 pm; Friday 7:30 am – 2:30 pm

**Café:** Monday through Thursday 8 am – 8 pm; Friday 8 am – 2:30 pm

Summer hours as posted

**Educational Opportunity Fund (EOF)**

**Location:** First Floor, College Center C-124

**Hours:** Monday through Friday 8:30 am – 5 pm

**Phone:** 908-526-1200 ext. 8875

EOF is a state funded program that provides additional economic and academic assistance to students who demonstrate need.

**Emergency Alert System**

The College has implemented a voice, email & text messaging emergency alert system. It is used as one means of providing information to the College community in the event of a campus shut-down for weather or other reasons. Please make sure your personal information is updated to ensure you are notified! Sign up at the Campus Closings tab in the Lion’s Den.
**Employment On-Campus**

There are a limited number of federally funded work-study (FWS) positions on campus for students. To apply for FWS jobs, bring a resume to the Financial Aid Office C-124. For part-time jobs on and off campus, stop by Career Services in C-116.

**Enrollment Services Office**

**Location:** First Floor, College Center C-160

**Fall & Spring Semester Hours:** Monday & Thursday 8:30 am – 6:30 pm; Tuesday & Wednesday 8:30 am – 5:30 pm; Friday 8:30 am – 4:30 pm; extended hours before the start of the semester.

**Phone:** 908-218-8864

Here you can:

- Register for classes
- Add, drop and withdraw from classes
- Request enrollment verification (see on-line instructions)
- Apply for graduation (Check for deadlines)

**Finance Office (Location for paying tuition)**

**Location:** First Floor, College Center Service Counter

**Hours:** Monday – Thursday 8 am – 6 pm, Friday 8 am – 5 pm

**Email:** bursar@raritanval.edu

**Phone:** 908-526-1200 ext. 7006

Provides student assistance with the following services:

- Tuition and Fee payment options and processing
- Account balance and billing inquiries
- Student Schedule/Bill
- Place or remove Financial holds on student accounts
- Generate Refund checks
- Review and process Employer Affidavits that support out-of-county tuition waivers

Credit Card payments can be made via the Student Services tab in the Lion’s Den.

**Financial Aid**

**Location:** First Floor, College Center C-124

**Hours:** Fall & Spring Semester: Monday 8:30 am – 6 pm; Tuesday through Friday 8:30 am – 5 pm

**Phone:** 908-526-1200 ext. 8273

Financial aid is available to full- and part-time students. The office assists students in securing financial aid from the federal government, the State of New Jersey and scholarships.

- The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) is the first step in applying and can be
completed online at www.fafsa.gov. Staff is available to assist you in completing the FAFSA if you have questions.

• June 1 is the deadline for state aid for continuing students. Applications are accepted year round but the earlier you submit the FAFSA the wider range of aid is available to you. Students must reapply each academic year by submitting a new FAFSA form.

• Changes during the semester in the number of credit hours of enrollment must be reported to the Financial Aid Office for any student receiving financial aid. Students should check with the Financial Aid Office before dropping classes or totally withdrawing. Doing this after the semester begins could result in the loss of some or all financial aid.

The Financial Aid Office is mindful of the effect the struggling economy has had on students. If your family’s financial situation has changed in the past year please come visit or contact the office to learn about your options, which could include an Income Appeal.

It is important to understand that eligibility for Financial Aid requires that you make progress towards your degree each semester. Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) qualifications for Financial Aid Recipients standards are detailed on the Financial Aid website. Appeal forms for exception to SAP must be discussed with and signed by an Academic Advisor and submitted to the Financial Aid Office. More information about this College Policy is in the College Catalog.

**First-Year Experience Office (FYE)**

**Location:** First Floor, College Center C-143

**Hours:** 8:30 am – 5 pm

**E-mail:** fye@raritanval.edu

**Phone:** 908-526-1200 ext. 8522

The FYE provides the foundation for success during your first year at RV. Academic advisors for first year students are here to provide services that assist with the transition to college life. These services include: Orientation Programs, New Student Welcome Events, and Academic and Career Planning including Academic Advising. The FYE Office also coordinates the Student Development Courses including the College Experience course (first year seminar course). If you have a question and don’t know where to go the FYE Office is the place to start!

**Fitness Center**

**Location:** Second Floor, Physical Education Building

**Hours:** Monday –Thursday 7 am – 8 pm; Friday 7 am – 6 pm; Saturday 8 am – 1 pm

**Summer Hours:** Monday-Thursday 7 am-6:30 pm; Friday 7 am-4 pm; Saturday/Sunday closed

Open to all enrolled students. Complete the Athletic Facilities Waiver form on the Lion’s Den to get started. You must have your RV ID with you to enter.
Game Room and Reflection Room

Location: Second Floor, College Center

If you are looking for a place to relax and take your mind off classes, there is a game room with a pool table, ping pong table, video games and just overall fun. RV ID required.

The Reflection Room is behind the Game Room and is available for relaxation, meditation and personal reflection. The Reflection Room Programming Board also coordinates guided mediation, relaxation workshops, and yoga.

Honors Programs

Contact: Greg DeSanctis (First Floor, College Center, C-166)

Phone: 908-526-1200 ext. 8501 or 8966

The Honors Program consists of The Honors College and Honors Courses. Both are intended for motivated students who wish to have an exceptional academic experience.

The Honors College

Open to students enrolling from high school to RV. Admission is competitive and involves a separate application process that consists of an interview, recommendations, and the submission of a high school transcript and SAT scores. Students should have at least a 3.5 GPA and be in the top 20% of their high school class. Students who don’t meet the GPA and class rank criteria can be considered if they have a 1700 or above SAT score or are highly recommended by their high school counselor. Those selected for admission will become part of a community of highly motivated students who collectively pursue a 2 year curriculum of honors courses. Honors College students will also be invited to partake in co-curricular, leadership, and cultural enrichment activities. Being a member of the Honors College enhances a student’s chances of transferring to a selective four year college or university.

Honors Courses

The College offers many honors courses each semester for students who want to take academically rigorous classes. Entrance to these courses requires a 3.5 GPA at RV, a transferring college or directly from high school. Students can also gain entry to an honors class by getting the instructor’s approval. Honors classes are noted on student transcripts and are recognized as a way to improve the chances of being accepted to a quality four year college. Students who complete 15 or more credits from honors courses receive the Honors Achievement Award.

Institute for Holocaust & Genocide Studies Resource Center

Location: Second Floor, Library

Hours: As posted

Phone: 908-526-1200 ext. 8524

The center, opened in 1999, serves as the repository for the Morris and Dorothy Hirsch Research Library of Holocaust and Genocide Studies. The room offers a place for quiet study and reflection. Teaching materials, reference materials, a multi-media collection, and internet access are available. This Resource Room serves as an instructional Center for classes, workshops, lectures, and presentations.
Internships & Cooperative Education (Also see Service Learning)

Location: College Center C=116
Phone: 908-526-1200 ext. 8213

An internship is considered a highly important criterion when employers seek to hire a new employee. Internships provide an opportunity for you to explore career choices, gain work experience in your current field of interest and apply your classroom learning to real work situations. In addition, an internship makes you a more marketable candidate when you enter the world of work on a full-time permanent basis.

Similar to an internship, a cooperative education experience, commonly known as a “co-op”, provides academic credit for a structured job experience which is supervised by a faculty coordinator.

Participating in either an internship or “co-op” will help students gain a greater degree of confidence about their choice of academic major and when entering professional employment.

Evelyn S. Field Library

Location: Library Building
Hours: Days, evenings and weekends as posted on the library’s website
Phone: 908-218-8865
Website: library.raritanval.edu

Your Student ID card serves as your library card. The library offers a collection of books, leisure reading, journals, newspapers, magazines, DVDs, videos, audio books and electronic materials. Over 50 computers are available for use. Other services include: laptops for loan; Ask-A-Librarian online reference service anytime the library is open; group study rooms (reservations recommended); new book display; photocopiers/ scanner; and off-campus access to databases.

Lion’s Den - the website for all your academic information and notifications

Website: lumserve.raritanval.edu

The Lion’s Den is the place to find College announcements and all your personal student information. The RVCC email (Lion Mail) is the official communication method with the College. Most important college communications, including bills and grade reports, are directed to students through the Lion Mail. It is important to become familiar with your Student ID number (G number), initial password, password maintenance and self-service password reset.

The online services are the best way for you to keep track of your records and progress toward graduation. Click on the Lion icon, and then choose the Student Services tab:

• Register for classes
• View and print your class schedule
• View financial aid status
• Check your tuition bill amount, due date, and make tuition bill payments
• View and print final grades
• Generate and print a degree evaluation to monitor progress toward your degree
- View Holds that may limit or restrict registration
- Add or drop classes
- Request enrollment verification for employers and insurance companies
- View and print unofficial transcripts
- Request official transcripts
- Sign up for the emergency alert system (for campus closing information)
- All transcripts can be ordered from the link to the National Student Clearinghouse

**Lion Mail/Office 365**
The College’s email system is your official communication channel with the college. Your email and Office 365 link are located in the upper right corner of the page on your “My Lion’s Den” tab in the Lion’s Den. You are expected to check your email account on a frequent and consistent basis in order to stay current with all college-related communications.

**Optical Clinic**

**Location:** Lower Level, College Center C-009  
**Hours:** As posted  
**Phone:** 908-231-8817

High-quality prescription eyeglasses and contact lenses are offered to students at a substantial discount from the retail price.

**Planetarium & Observatory**

**Location:** East Building  
**Hours:** Monday through Friday 8:30 am – 4:30 pm  
**Star and Laser Shows:** As posted  
**Phone:** 908-231-8805

Presents star and laser shows for adults and children, as well as astronomy education. Features include 100-seat planetarium, gift shop, exhibition space and observatory.

**Safety and Security**

**Location:** Lower Level, Somerset Hall  
**Hours:** 24 hours per day, seven days per week  
**Phone:** 908-231-8800

**Confidential TIPS hotline:** 908-231-8806 (Call to report suspicious people, behavior or packages, someone in distress or threats of violence. All calls are confidential. You do not need to give your name.)

Red emergency phones located on each floor in every campus building and blue emergency phones located in parking lots 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8 and the basketball courts, all connect directly to the Campus Safety Office. Security cameras are strategically located inside all campus buildings and exterior parking areas. With walking patrols on campus, and mobile patrols throughout campus...
parking areas, the Department of Campus Safety seeks to ensure a safe and secure environment for everyone. Campus Safety provides a variety of services regarding medical and fire emergencies, pedestrian and vehicular safety, property protection, parking enforcement, vehicular mechanical problems, lost and found property and informational assistance.

Crime, medical and fire emergencies, motor vehicle accidents, threatening behavior, suspicious activity and safety hazards should be reported to Campus Safety immediately. Contact Campus Safety by responding to the Security Office, calling the direct telephone line, 908-231-8800, or by use of red and blue emergency phones.

In case of emergency for Fire or Smoke in a building, a Threatening Person on Campus, Environmental Emergencies or a Power Outage, follow direction provided by Campus Safety staff and College staff members. Students should familiarize themselves with Emergency Procedures listed in this handbook.

**Service Learning**

**Location:** Lower Level, College Center C-020  
**Hours:** Monday through Friday 8:30 am – 5 pm  
**Phone:** 908-526-1200 ext. 8284

Enables you to use community service as part of your academic studies and to receive credit for the experience. You will serve at various non-profit organizations, government agencies and public schools doing an activity that relates to the course content. Upon successful completion of the service learning activity, you can receive a Student Engagement Transcript documenting your participation in the program, which is used to enhance your resume and transfer applications. Service Learning offers many advantages to students. Among the top reasons why you should participate are the opportunities to: explore a career or academic major, develop job contacts and occupational skills for future employment, apply academic knowledge in a practical way, form realistic ideas about the world of work, improve communication skills, time management and self-motivation, gain satisfaction from helping others, build good leadership skills and meet people of different ages and diverse backgrounds.

**Student Engagement Transcript (SET)**

Student Life will assist you in creating a Student Engagement Transcript (SET) to track your co-curricular learning experiences. An official SET, printed by Student Life, may be requested by involved students to accompany their resume and academic transcript for transfer applications, scholarships, and job applications. Begin your SET as soon as you start at RV! Contact the Student Life for additional information.

**Small Business Development Center**

**Location:** 14 Vogt Drive, Bridgewater  
**Hours:** Monday through Friday 8 am – 5 pm  
**Phone:** 908-526-1200 ext. 8516

Offers services to area businesses including free counseling, free resources, low-cost workshops and international business education.
Student Life (For more info see listings in Clubs & Activities section)

**Location:** First Floor, Bateman Student Center BC 100

**Hours:** Monday through Friday 8:30 am – 5:30 pm

**Email:** studentlife@raritanval.edu

**Phone:** 908.526.1200 ext. 8873

The classroom experience is only one segment of your experience at RV. The cultural, recreational and governmental activities and functions at the College are equally important. By sharing in these activities, you have the opportunity to develop many personal and career skills.

Technology Services

**Location:** First Floor, Somerset S-118 and Second Floor, West W-206

**Hours:** Monday through Friday 8:00 am – 5:00 pm (Somerset); Monday through Friday 8:00 am – 9:00 pm and Saturday 8:00 am – 4:30 pm (West)

**Phone:** 908 526-1200 ext. 7887 or 908-231-8811

Provides comprehensive, quick, courteous computing support to academic departments, faculty, staff and students. Technology Services self-service support is available online 24 hours a day and walk-in and live phone support is available during posted hours.

Testing Services

**Location:** Lower Level, Library

**Hours:** Monday through Thursday 8:30 am – 8 pm; Friday 8:30 am – 4:30 pm; Saturday 9:00 am – 1 pm. Hours vary during the summer and when classes are not in session

**Phone:** 908-526-1200 ext. 8401

Services include the College Level Examination Program (CLEP), departmental exams for students interested in credit by examination (consult with the appropriate academic department first) and foreign Language placement tests.

Theatre

**Location:** Box Office, Outer Theatre Lobby

**Box Office Hours:** Monday through Friday 11 am – 4 pm and 90 minutes prior to performances

**Website:** www.rvccarts.org

**Phone:** 908-725-3420

Offers the best in professional dance, music, theatre and spectacle, from around the world, for all ages. Students may purchase up to four tickets for each show at half price. Bring your student ID to the box office or purchase online through Lion’s Den.
Transfer Planning and Services

Location: First Floor, College Center C-116

Hours: Monday through Friday 8:30 am – 5 pm; evenings by appointment

Phone: 908-526-1200 ext. 8333

Transfer information and counseling are available for students who are planning to continue their education at another college after RV. Information about transfer workshops, college transfer fairs, transfer articulation agreements, dual admission programs, and other transfer-related events are posted on the Transfer Services website and on Lion’s Den.

This office arranges visits from other colleges who are looking to admit RV students. Check the Lion’s Den and the Transfer website for Transfer Information Sessions, Instant Decision Days, and Visiting Colleges Information Sessions. Make an appointment with a transfer counselor to discuss your individual transfer concerns.

Transfer Tips:
Start your transfer planning early. The choice of a college is an important decision. Become aware of transfer application deadlines, admission requirements, prerequisites and other information critical for a successful transfer. Learn about transfer scholarship opportunities.

Attend a How to Transfer Information Session, offered several times each semester.

Use www.njtransfer.org—the statewide transfer database system—each semester before registering for classes. See the courses recommended for particular colleges and academic majors and note the transfer event calendar for open house and other transfer events. Read details about the transfer law in NJ that governs transfer to public colleges, also available on the NJ Transfer website.

Transportation

Phone: 908-526-1200 x8612

Hunterdon County runs the LINK bus, which can provide rides to campus by request. Somerset County runs two bus routes to campus, CAT-1R and CAT-2R. CAT-1R and CAT-2R riders can use the RBus Somerset app to find out the departure time of the next bus and receive alerts about schedule changes and delays. Download the app for free from Google Play or iTunes.

Full-time students taking NJ Transit are eligible for a 25% discount through the Student Pass program. Electric car charging is available in front of the West building for a 40 cent connection fee.

Interested in carpooling? The College offers a ride-matching service through RideWise. Fill out the online form and be matched with other carpool-seekers or listed in RideWise’s carpool classifieds. Carpoolers registered with RideWise’s Ticket Home program are eligible for a free ride home in case of emergency and will receive a placard to park in the carpool-only parking spaces in front of the West building.
Tutoring (See Academic Support Center)

WIFI Access
Phone: 908 526-1200 ext. 7887 or 908-231-8811
The College’s wireless network is available in all buildings on the main campus and several outside areas. Visit Technology Services in the Somerset or the West building for access information.

Withdrawal from Classes
You are responsible for withdrawing from any course for which you register. If you cannot attend class, you must withdraw prior to the deadline or you will receive a grade in the course. Financial aid may be recalculated depending on the last day you attend, so check with the Financial Aid Office first. It is recommended that you speak to an academic advisor before withdrawing from a course.

Workforce Training
Location: College Center, C-020
Hours: Monday through Friday 8:30 am – 5 pm
Phone: 908-218-8871
Offers professional development, customized training and career training.

Youth Programs & Community Education
Location: Lower Level College Center, C020
Hours: Monday through Friday 8:00 am – 4:30 pm
Phone: 908-218-8871
Offers personal enrichment courses for all ages including youth, adults and lifelong learners throughout the year. Special summer youth programs available.

Michelle Amparbin
Class of 2014
Transferred to Drew University
“It is important for individuals to never forget where they came from and remember to reach back and inspire and/or aid others to become successful.”
Clubs & Organizations

Every student is encouraged to get involved and participate in a variety of activities including Student Government, leadership development seminars, fine arts and entertainment programming and membership in student organizations and clubs.

Co-curricular clubs and organizations provide a valuable opportunity for students to develop leadership skills, budgeting, communication, team-building, goal setting, and organizational skills. Student organizations covering a wide spectrum of interests exist to meet the needs of students. Involvement also gives you the opportunity to build your Student Engagement Transcript (SET).

- **Student Life Activities and Planning Board (SLAP Board)** - The SLAP Board is the primary event planning organization at RV. The SLAP works closely with Student Life to plan a variety of events every semester ranging from educational lectures to campus wide picnics. The Program Board is comprised of students who are interested in bringing culture, fun, and excitement to the out of classroom experience. Get involved and make a difference, join the Program Board!

- **Student Government Association** - The Student Government Association (SGA) is the student governing body for all enrolled students. As an elected member, a student has the opportunity to apply leadership skills and to work on programs and activities that contribute to college life. SGA members play an important role in college-wide governance as members of college standing committees, including the College-wide Forum. The student government is responsible for the allocation process of distributing student activity funds to student clubs.

Yaniv Myszkin
Class of 2014
*Transferred to Rutgers University*

“RVCC gave me the opportunity to network and interact with a variety of interesting and unique students from around the world whose friendships will last a lifetime.”
**Honor Societies**
- **Alpha Beta Gamma** - International Business Honor Society
- **Phi Theta Kappa** – Prestigious International Honor Society for students of all majors with at least a 3.5 GPA.
- **Psi Beta** – Psychology Honor Society
- **Sigma Kappa Delta** – English Language honorary

**Academic**
- Astronomy Club
- Biology/Chemistry Club
- Business Club: Enactus
- Campus Fitness Club
- College Community Empowerment Project-Student Alliance (CCEPSA) associated with the poverty in society course with similar goals
- Criminal Justice Club
- Debate Club
- Education Club
- Engineering Club
- Environmental Club
- Film Makers Club
- Game Creation Club
- Harmonally Balanced (A Cappella Group)
- Hip Hop Dance Club
- Improv Club
- Literary Club
- Math Club
- Newspaper, Online: The Record
- Paralegal Club
- Philosophy Club
- Probability of Games Club
- Psychology Club
- Raritan Valley Radio Station – RVR
- Student Nurses Association (SNA)

**Cultural**
- Alliance, The - lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, questioning, and ally (LGBTQA)
- Black Students Association (BSA) - African culture and the “Black Experience”
- Brothers Helping Brothers –African American and Hispanic males attending RV
• Filipino Pride Engagement Awareness & Cultural Empowerment (P.E.A.C.E.) Club
• I Am That Girl
• International Students Club
• Muslim Student Association
• Orgullo Latino/Latin Pride Club
• Sister to Sister Network - Female students from underrepresented groups
• Students of the Women’s Center
• United Caribbean Students Club

Special Interest

• Anime Club
• BACCHUS: A Fresh Reality (Boosting Alcohol Consciousness Concerning the Health of University Students)
• Cru (formerly Campus Crusade for Christ)
• Debate Club
• Kids Like Us Club
• Lifelong Educational Opportunity Students (L.E.O.S.) Club – Non-Traditional Adult Student Club
• Reflection Room Planning Board
• Rotaract
• Toastmasters Club
• To Write Love on Her Arms (TWLOHA)
• Ultimate Frisbee Club

Leah Bailey Goddiess
Class of 2014
Transferred to University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

“At RVCC I found a confidence in myself to do well and to move forward with more focus and drive.”
Academic Programs, Policies and Procedures

Degree Programs

The College awards Associate of Arts degrees, Associate of Science degrees, Associate of Fine Arts degrees, Associate of Applied Science degrees and certificates to students who have completed approved programs. The programs are listed in the College catalog and on the website.

Transfer Programs (A.A., A.S., A.F.A.)
In general, transfer programs are designed for students who are planning a career that requires at least four years of college preparation. Upon completion of a transfer associate degree program at RV, students are prepared for transfer into the junior year of baccalaureate study at a four-year college.

Career Programs (A.A.S.)
Career programs are designed to prepare students for entry into a career field upon completion of studies. Although the career programs are not designed for transfer to four-year schools, it is possible to do so. The number of credits acceptable for transfer depends on the program taken at the College and the individual four-year college involved.

Workforce and Certificate Programs

The College offers a number of certificate programs that provide specialized training for occupational preparation. Some certificate programs earn college credit and some are designed only for workforce training. Most certificate offerings can be completed by full-time students in one year.

Adding and Dropping Courses

Do not just stop attending your class! It is important to officially withdraw if you are not able to continue the course. Failure to officially withdraw may result in an “F” grade on the permanent record and may have an impact on your financial aid award. Speak with a financial aid officer before dropping if you are a financial aid recipient.

You may add or drop courses online by using the Lion’s Den during specified periods, or by submitting an Add/Drop Form by mail, fax, or in person to the Office of Enrollment Services.

Because developmental courses build essential skills for college success, students are not permitted to withdraw from those developmental courses without speaking with an Academic Advisor in Advising and Counseling Services, College Center, C-163. Exceptions may be granted only by consultation with an Academic Advisor or Counselor.

The Add/Drop form is available online” or at the Office of Enrollment Services. Keep a copy of the transaction or form. Add/Drop transactions will be processed in accordance with the Semester Refund/Withdrawal Schedule as published in the Course Schedule and on the College website.

Advanced Standing

RV will accept up to 45 transfer credits for coursework completed with a grade of C or better at regionally accredited post-secondary institutions toward an associate degree or 75 percent of the required credits for a certificate program. The course requirements of some selective programs may limit the application of transfer credits to degree requirements.
Break in Enrollment and Catalog Year
A student who interrupts his/her studies for more than three years must fulfill the requirements in place upon re-enrollment. A student with a break of more than three years may use requirements in place during initial enrollment only if he/she had earned 50 credits prior to the break in enrollment and if the degree is still being offered.

A student whose program has been discontinued will be permitted two years to complete the program; RV will not award degrees for programs that have been discontinued for more than two years.

Changing Majors
Students who wish to change degree or certificate programs should meet with an Academic Advisor in Advising and Counseling Services (College Center, C-165). A student who wishes to enter the Nursing program, or change from non-degree-seeking to degree-seeking must submit a new application for admission.

Credit Limit
Degree-seeking students may enroll for a maximum of 19 credit hours during the Fall or Spring semesters, 12 credit hours during the Summer semester and only for one course during the Intersession, unless permission is granted by an Academic Advisor or Counselor. Non-degree students are limited to 9 credits per semester.

General Education Courses
All programs leading to an Associate Degree include a broad distribution of courses contributing to the student’s general education. In order to choose appropriate general education courses for the degree or certificate program, you can look at the list of General Education Courses on the College website.

‘G number’ or Student ID Number
It is important that you learn your college-assigned student identification number, identified in your welcome packet. The nine digit number begins with a ‘G’ and should be included on all forms and correspondence. This G Number also serves as the username for access to Lion’s Den for online services and transactions. You need your G Number for just about everything you do at RVCC so make sure to memorize it! If you ever have trouble logging in you can visit the Technology Services Helpdesk in person with a photo ID and your G Number to get it resolved.

Registration
Registration for Fall semester courses generally begins in April. Registration for Spring and Summer courses generally begins in early November. Currently enrolled students have one week of Priority Web Registration, before registration is opened to all students. Make sure you take advantage! You are encouraged to meet with an Academic Advisor prior to registration and register early for the best selection of classes.
Three Ways to Register for Classes:

1. **Web**: [www.raritanval.edu](http://www.raritanval.edu) – If you have Lion’s Den access and no registration holds you can register and add or drop courses online during specified periods.

2. **In-Person**: Complete the registration form, including your G number, and bring it to the Office of Enrollment Services, located on the First Floor of the College Center.

3. **Mail**: Office of Enrollment Services, Raritan Valley Community College, P.O. Box 3300, Somerville, NJ 08876. Complete the registration form, including your G number, and mail it with a check, money order. Credit card information must be handled separately.

A student’s registration is not official unless class registrations have been recorded by the College and payment has been accepted. Students should refer to the published class schedule to confirm payment due dates. Student registrations are subject to possible cancellation if the payment is not made in advance of the published payment due dates.

In all cases, the responsibility for fee payment and confirming official registration is the individual student’s. Students are not to attend class, participate in class activities or take exams unless they are officially registered. The College will not award a grade in a course for which a student was not officially registered. You should check your Lion’s Den to verify your registration status.

Registration Holds

You may be restricted from registering online or from registering at all due to a Registration Hold. This may be the result of admission status, academic standing, required developmental studies courses, required admission or financial aid documents, outstanding library books or athletic equipment, an outstanding bill, or other requirement. Check for messages in Lion Mail, view holds through the Lion’s Den Student Services tab, and contact the Originator of the Hold for clarification and assistance.

Transcripts

All official transcripts must be ordered online through [www.getmytranscript.com](http://www.getmytranscript.com). Select Raritan Valley Community College, and then you are only steps away from completing your request. The cost of a transcript is $5 plus a processing fee. Have your transcripts mailed, faxed, or picked up at the college. All official transcripts are sealed in an envelope and remain official until the seal is broken. Check your Lion’s Den for updates on when transcripts will be available for currently enrolled students at the end of each semester.

Students may view and print unofficial transcripts through the Lion’s Den Student Services, under Registration and Records Tools select View Academic Transcripts.

Tuition & Payment

Check the website to make certain you pay your bill on time. Tuition and payment information is available on the Finance website. Students are encouraged to become familiar with payment due dates for each semester as well as the refund period. A copy of your student bill will be emailed to your student Lion’s Den account. Bills can be paid online through the Lion’s Den, or in person at the Finance office. Taking classes at night after the office is closed? Drop your tuition payment in the drop box located on the outside of the Finance Office.
Classes, Exams & Grades

Class Attendance
Students are expected to attend all classes, laboratories, and clinical sessions for every course in which they are enrolled. To accommodate students’ reasonable, personal situations that might prevent them from attending classes, each student is entitled to excused absences amounting to the equivalent of one week’s class time in a semester. Any absences in excess of this standard can prevent students from achieving the course learning outcomes as evaluated by the instructor.

Early Warning & Midterm Warning
Students who are struggling in one or more of their courses may receive an early warning notice. Students who receive early warnings are strongly encouraged to meet with their instructor to discuss the instructor’s recommendations and additional tips and strategies for improving their academic performance.

At midterm, students in academic difficulty may receive a midterm warning. Students doing unsatisfactory work at this time should consult their instructor to determine ways to improve their academic performance. Academic Advisors are also available to provide support. In cases where additional studying, tutoring, or changes in study habits cannot improve the student’s grade, withdrawal may be recommended to prevent a failure from being recorded.

Final Examinations
Students are not expected to take more than two final examinations on any given day. If a student has more than two final examinations scheduled on a single day, he/she may appeal to have one of the examinations rescheduled. The line of appeal is first to the faculty member(s) and then to the Dean of Academic Affairs. Students are expected to take final examinations when they are scheduled or rescheduled. Missed examinations may be rescheduled at the discretion of the faculty member.

Grade Reports
Students may view final semester or summer session grades on the web by using the Lion’s Den-Student Services tab at www.raritanval.edu. Grades become viewable as the instructors report them to the Office of Enrollment Services. Approximately two weeks after the end of the semester or summer session, grade point averages are calculated and grade reports are emailed to the Lion Mail address.

Grade & Academic Appeals
Student grievances of an academic nature should initially be discussed between the student and the student’s instructor. Failing a satisfactory resolution of the problem at this level, the student should consult with the appropriate department chairperson. Should the student still feel that a satisfactory resolution has not been achieved, the student may request the Dean of Academic Affairs to review the matter. Students wishing to initiate a grade appeal must do so within four weeks of the beginning of the following semester, excluding Summer sessions. Other than in cases of computational or clerical error, grades may only be changed by following the grade appeal procedure.
Grade Appeal Procedure

A student who wishes to appeal a final grade shall proceed as follows:

1. Submit a written request for a grade change along with the rationale for such a request to the faculty member who assigned the grade. The appeal must be filed by the fourth week of the following semester (Summer sessions not included).

2. Within two weeks of filing such a request for a grade change by the student, the faculty member shall respond in writing rendering a decision about the request for change of a grade.

If the student wishes to further challenge the decision of the faculty member as described above, he/she shall follow the following procedure:

1. A petition for a grade change should be filed, in writing, with the appropriate chairperson after conferring with the instructor. The petition shall include a description of the student’s rationale for challenging the recorded grade with supportive documentation.

2. The chairperson shall:
   a. Interview the student.
   b. Interview the faculty member who assigned the grade.
   c. Review written material submitted by the student and faculty member. The chairperson shall also consult with senior faculty members familiar with the discipline involved with respect to the graded material under challenge.
   d. The chairperson shall render a written recommendation to the student and faculty member involved within one month from the date the chairperson received the petition.

3. If the grade was not revised through the above process, the student may further appeal to the Dean of Academic Affairs. The Dean will review all materials and determine whether or not a grade change shall be approved, and shall advise the involved student and faculty member in writing of the decision. The decision of the Dean of Academic Affairs shall be final.

Repeating a Course

Students may repeat any college-level course once without specific authorization. To repeat a college-level course more than once, a student must have the approval of the Dean of Student Services. Courses in which students have received grades of W, AU, or P are not included in counting repeated courses.

When a college-level course is repeated, all enrollments in the course are included on the student’s permanent academic record, but only the highest grade earned at RV will be included in the student’s grade point average (GPA). Developmental courses (course numbers below 100) are not governed by this policy.

Students receiving financial aid should consult with the Financial Aid office before repeating a course, since some financial aid programs do not pay for repeated courses.
Academic Renewal Program

The Academic Renewal Program is designed for students who attended RV, compiled an unsuccessful academic record, and subsequently left the College for five or more years. As a result of their work experience, maturity, or new interests, these students may now wish to return to college to pursue a program of study towards a degree. To qualify for the Academic Renewal Program, a student must:

- Be matriculated into a degree or certificate program
- Have been away from RV for a minimum of five years (60 months)
- Upon returning to RV, complete a minimum of twelve credit hours, earning a GPA of 2.4 or better
- Be currently enrolled

Under the Academic Renewal Program all grades earned prior to the five-year period are eliminated from the student’s GPA calculation. Only the GPA is affected by this program. All other previous academic records will remain on the transcript. Grades earned after returning to RV will be included in the new GPA calculations, including the twelve credits required to qualify for this program. All courses taken prior to the five-year absence in which a grade of C or better was earned may be used to meet graduation requirements. *More information about this College Policy is in the College Catalog.

Academic Standing

Academic Standing is recorded on the academic transcript at the conclusion of each term. Students whose comprehensive semester grade point average or cumulative college level grade point average falls below 2.00 will receive a Lion’s Den e-mail letter indicating their academic standing. Students should check final grades and academic standing on Lion’s Den and Lion’s Den e-mail each term.

Grade Point Averages Used to Determine Academic Standing

Comprehensive semester grade point average – The grade point average for the term, including developmental studies, English as a Second Language studies, and all other college-level coursework.

Cumulative grade point average – The cumulative grade point average for all college-level coursework at Raritan Valley Community College.

Good Standing

Students must maintain a comprehensive semester grade point average of 2.0 or better and a cumulative college level grade point average of 2.0 or better to be in Good Academic Standing.

Academic Alert

Academic Alert is an initial warning to students whose comprehensive semester grade point average or cumulative college level grade point average falls below 2.00 that they are not making satisfactory academic progress and that they may be placed on Academic Probation if their record does not improve.
**Academic Probation**

Students on Academic Alert whose comprehensive semester grade point average or cumulative grade point average is below 2.0 in their next enrollment term are placed on Academic Probation.

Students on Academic Probation whose comprehensive semester grade point average in their next enrollment term is 2.0 or higher, but whose cumulative grade point average remains below 2.0, remain on Academic Probation.

Academic Probation is a serious warning to students that they are not making satisfactory academic progress and that they may be placed on Academic Suspension if their record does not improve. Students on Academic Probation must have the approval of an Academic Advisor or Counselor for subsequent enrollments or enrollment changes while on Academic Probation. Students’ enrollment may be restricted to certain courses, or to a limited number of courses, as a condition of Academic Probation status.

**Academic Suspension**

Students on Academic Probation whose comprehensive semester grade point average in their next enrollment term is below 2.0 are placed on Academic Suspension.

Students on Academic Suspension are prohibited from enrolling in the next semester. A student may petition for permission to enroll part-time to the Academic Standards Committee or to an Academic Advisor or Counselor authorized by the Academic Standards Committee to hear such petitions. If a student’s petition is approved, the student is placed on Suspension Probation.

**Suspension Probation**

Students returning to the College after a period of Academic Suspension or Academic Dismissal, and students who successfully petition to enroll from Academic Suspension are placed on Suspension Probation. Students on Suspension Probation must meet with an Academic Advisor or Counselor before re-enrolling. These students’ enrollment may be restricted to certain courses, or to a limited number of courses, as a condition of Suspension Probation status.

**Academic Dismissal**

Students on Suspension Probation whose comprehensive semester grade point average in their next enrollment term is below 2.0 are placed on Academic Dismissal and are prohibited from enrolling for two calendar years. Students are subject to Academic Dismissal each enrollment term the comprehensive semester grade point average is below 2.0, until achieving Good Academic Standing. Academic Dismissal is final and cannot be appealed.

**Re-enrollment Following Academic Dismissal**

A student returning to the College after a period of Academic Dismissal must petition the Dean of Academic Affairs in writing by letter or email. If reinstated, the student will be placed on Suspension Probation.
Commencement & Academic Honors

Commencement

The College holds Commencement Exercises in May of each year. A student may participate in Commencement Exercises if he/she meets any of the following criteria:

- Completed all program requirements at the end of the previous Fall semester or at the end of the previous Summer session.
- Will have completed all program requirements at the end of the current Spring semester.
- Has three or fewer courses remaining to be completed to fulfill all program requirements and is enrolled in those courses in the following Summer session.

Selection of Student Commencement Speaker

The College believes it is fitting and appropriate to have a representative of the graduating class speak at Commencement as a way of showcasing the accomplishments of our students. The Commencement Committee is responsible for developing the procedures that will be followed in selecting a student commencement speaker. Consideration should be given to a student’s grade point average, academic achievements and personal accomplishments. The Dean of Academic Affairs, working with a committee of faculty, will review candidates for student commencement speaker and submit a recommendation to the President for approval.

Academic Honors

Graduation-with-honors designations for the Commencement Ceremony are based on the student’s Grade Point Average (GPA) as follows.

- Summer and Fall Graduates – GPA at the end of the Graduation term.
- Spring Graduates – GPA at end of the previous Fall semester.

The College recognizes the academic achievement of students in the following ways.

Dean’s List – The Dean’s List of outstanding students is compiled and published at the end of each Fall and Spring semester. To be included on the Dean’s List a student must meet all of the following requirements.

- Have earned a minimum of 12 cumulative credit hours at RV in college-level courses.
- Earn a minimum of six college-level credit hours in the current Fall or Spring semester.
- Achieve a minimum semester GPA of 3.5 in college-level courses.
- Receive no grade lower than a “C” in any course for the semester.
- Not be eligible for inclusion on the President’s List of outstanding students.
President’s List – The President’s List of outstanding students is compiled and published at the end of each Fall and Spring semester. To be included on the President’s List a student must meet all of the following requirements.

- Earn a minimum of 12 credit hours in college-level courses in the current Fall or Spring semester.
- Earn “A” grades in all courses for the semester.
- Have no “W” or “I” grades for the semester.

Degrees with Honors – Students completing Associate’s degree requirements and meeting all of the following additional requirements receive degrees with honors.

- Achieve a minimum total cumulative RV GPA of 3.5.
- Achieve a minimum cumulative RV GPA of 3.5 on all courses applied toward the awarded degree.
- Receive no grade lower than a “C” in any college-level course applied toward the awarded degree.
- Complete, at RV, a minimum of 30 credits hours in courses applied toward the awarded degree.

Certificates with Honors – Students completing Certificate requirements and meeting all of the following additional requirements receive certificates with honors.

- Complete a certificate requiring at least 30 semester credit hours.
- Achieve a minimum total cumulative RV GPA of 3.5.
- Achieve a minimum total cumulative RV GPA of 3.5 on all courses applied to the awarded certificate.
- Receive no grade lower than a “C” in any college-level course applied toward the awarded certificate.
- Complete, at RV, a minimum of 15 credits hours in courses applied toward the awarded certificate.

Honors are awarded on the basis of the student’s cumulative RV GPA on all courses applied to the awarded degree or certificate as follows.

1. 3.50 – 3.79 Cum Laude (with honor)
2. 3.80 – 3.99 Magna Cum Laude (with high honor)
3. 4.00 Summa Cum Laude (with highest honor)

Honors Achievement Award – To receive the Honors Achievement Award a student must meet all of the following requirements.

- Complete at least 15 credits of honors-level coursework.
- Earn a ‘B’ or better in each course counted towards the award.
Rules & Regulations
Alcohol & Illegal Drugs
The use, possession and sale of alcoholic beverages is forbidden. The use, possession, sale or being under the influence of drugs unless prescribed by a doctor is forbidden. Raritan Valley Community College adheres to all local, state and federal laws and statutes pertaining to the possession, use and distribution of alcohol and illegal drugs and expects its students to do the same. If the student is found to be under the influence of drugs or alcohol, the Department of Campus Safety will contact the local police. Persons violating these policies will be subjected to all applicable civil and criminal penalties and the College disciplinary procedure.

New Jersey’s "Opioid Antidote and Overdose Protection Act" (P.L.2013, c.46) is a law that encourages individuals to report a drug overdose/seek medical assistance by granting immunity from arrest and prosecution for use or simple possession to both the caller and the person experiencing an overdose. It also grants immunity to those who administer the overdose antidote, Naloxone to revive a person. Similarly, the "9-1-1 Lifeline Legislation" (N.J. P.L. 2009, c.133) lets underage drinkers report alcohol poisoning without fear of prosecution. These laws are designed to save lives.

Through the office of Advising and Counseling Services, you can receive assistance dealing with substance abuse and referrals for community resources. All contacts are confidential.

Address Required
A student is required to maintain a current address of residence in the Office of Enrollment Services. Students who move should report the change within 5 days.

Animals on Campus
Persons may not bring animals onto campus, or any other location where the College offers courses or sponsors events, with the exception of service animals used by individuals with documented disabilities that require their assistance. A service or guide dog trainer, while engaged in the actual training process, shall have the same rights, privileges, and responsibilities with respect to access to public facilities as are applicable to a person with a certified disability. For more information, contact the Office for Students with Disabilities in College Center, C-143.

Appeals of College Policy: Academic Concerns and Complaints
Students with complaints and concerns about the classroom should first attempt to resolve the matter with the instructor. Failing a satisfactory resolution, the student should consult with the appropriate department chairperson. Should the student not be satisfied with the results of that discussion, the student may request the Dean of Academic Affairs in College Center, C-150 to review the matter. The decision of the Dean is the final appeal.

Appeals of College Policy: Non-Academic
The College establishes policies and procedures for all students. However, there may be times when a situation is unique or different from other students and an exception should be made. This may be particularly true for students with an extended illness or serious family event. If you have a situation you feel warrants an exception, submit an “Appeal for an Exception to College Policy” form which is
available from the Office of Enrollment Services on the first floor of the College Center. This form should be submitted with a letter of explanation and any supporting documentation to the Office of Enrollment Services. A College Appeals Committee meets monthly and will respond to you in writing once the decision is made.

If the appeal relates to a grade, please see the previous academic appeals section of this handbook. There is a separate procedure for grade appeals and academic complaints.

**Bullying and Intimidation**

Harassment, intimidation, or bullying in gesture; or any written, verbal or electronic communication that is motivated by actual or perceived characteristics such as race, color, religion, gender, sexual orientation or disability is a violation of the Student Code of Conduct and may be a violation of Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and/or Title IX of the 1972 Education Amendments. Students should report bullying to the Dean of Student Services in C-143.

**Dissent and Demonstrations**

Any member of the College community is free to express or demonstrate his/her support for, or opposition to, any principle, issue, or action through orderly means that do not violate College policy or regulation. Such demonstrations must not interfere with or disrupt normal operations of the College or infringe upon the rights and/or freedoms of other members of the College community.

**Emergency Notification**

The College notifies students of weather or other emergencies through Connect-Ed, a communication system that sends phone messages, e-mail messages and text messages. Go to the Lion’s Den and click on the “Campus Closing” tab to update any contact information. For more details, see section on Emergency Procedures.

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**Montana Ricks**  
Class of 2014  
*Transferred to Morgan State University*  

“RVCC gave me the guidance to learn new skills and sharpen my existing ones. Through student organizations and help from professors, I have been molded into the student I thought I always could be.”
The Family Educational Rights & Privacy Act (FERPA)
The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 protects the privacy of education records, establishes the right of students to inspect and review their education records, and provides guidelines for contesting information in these records that is believed to be inaccurate or misleading. Students have the right to inspect and review all of their education records maintained by the College. The College is not required to provide copies of records unless it is not reasonably convenient for students to inspect their records.

Students have the right to request that the College correct records believed to be inaccurate or misleading. If the College decides, in response to such a request, not to amend a student’s record, the student has the right to a formal hearing before the Dean of Student Services. After the hearing, if the College maintains its position that the student’s record should not be amended, the student has the right to enter a statement into his/her records commenting on the contested information.

The College will not release any confidential information from a student’s record without the written consent of the student, except for releasing information to:

- College officials with a legitimate educational interest
- Other institutions at which a student intends to enroll
- Certain government officials for the purpose of carrying out their lawful functions
- Appropriate parties involved with the awarding of financial aid to a student
- Organizations conducting appropriate research for the College
- Accrediting agencies
- Individuals who have obtained appropriate court orders or subpoenas
- Persons who have need for the information in cases of health and safety emergencies

The College may disclose Directory Information without the written consent of the student. Directory Information includes the following:

Chase Gray
Class of 2014
Transferred to Northeastern University
“RVCC helped me realize that it does not matter where you start, it is perseverance that propels you forward.”
• Name, address, telephone number, and email address
• Date and place of birth
• Dates of attendance
• Enrollment status
• Previous institutions attended
• Major field of study
• Awards and honors
• Degrees and/or Certificates awarded including date of conferral
• Past and present participation in officially recognized College activities
• Height and weight of student athletes

Students may request the withholding of Directory Information. To ensure that such a request is properly processed, it must be submitted on the official “Request to Withhold Directory Information” form, which is available in the Office of Enrollment Services. The request to withhold information will remain in effect until the student submits a signed authorization for the release of Directory Information.

Students have the right to file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education concerning an alleged failure by the College to comply with the requirements of FERPA. For further information regarding the filing of complaints, students should contact the Family Policy Compliance Office, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20202.

**Firearms, Weapons, Explosives, Dangerous Knives, Hazardous Materials**

Firearms, weapons, ammunition, knives, explosives, destructive devices, fireworks or any item that imitates or is reasonably capable of being mistaken as these items whether operable or inoperable are not permitted on College property. This includes antique weapons, air guns capable of launching a projectile and components that can be assembled into a weapon. Items included in the weapons policy are also not permitted on College property. Violation of this policy can result in legal prosecution and College administrative action.

**Possessing or Carrying Firearms on College Property**

Off-duty law enforcement officers, who are required to carry a firearm while attending classes, shall properly secure and conceal the firearm at all times while on the College campus, or any other College property.

Retired law enforcement officers authorized by law to carry a firearm shall properly secure and conceal the firearm at all times while on the College campus, or any other College property.

**Gambling**

In compliance with New Jersey State Laws, gambling is forbidden on campus. Any persons found gambling on campus property may be subject to legal action.

**Identification (Student ID) Card**

All students are required to have a valid RV Identification (ID) Card in their possession at all times when on college property or at any other location where the College offers courses. Student ID cards
must be obtained and validated at the Office of Student Life or the Library. A student is required to present his/her Identification Card when requested to do so by College personnel and Campus Safety staff. Failure to provide a student ID card upon request, will result in verification action by Student Services or the Campus Safety Department. If a person’s identity cannot be verified, the unidentified person may be asked to leave campus property.

A student’s ID card is used to access various College facilities, student service departments and the college Game room. The student ID card is required to use the College library, public libraries in Somerset and Hunterdon Counties, Fitness Center, and RV athletic facilities. The Theatre offers discounted tickets to students with a valid ID card. For additional information, contact the Office of Student Life at 908-526-1200 ext. 8873.

**Immunization**

All applicants for admission to the College who are seeking a degree or certificate from RV and are intending to enroll as full-time students (12 credit hours or more per semester) must provide the following documentation of immunization prior to initial enrollment:

**Measles, Mumps and Rubella (MMR)** (This requirement applies only to individuals born on or after January 1, 1957)

- Documentation of one vaccination dose administered after 1968 on or about the applicant’s first birthday, and documentation of a second vaccination dose administered no less than one month after the first dose or
- Documentation of laboratory blood tests confirming immunity to MMR

**Hepatitis B**

- Documentation of three vaccination doses, or
- Documentation of laboratory blood test confirming immunization for Hepatitis B

An applicant is exempt from these requirements if he/she provides:

- Signed documentation explaining how the administration of an immunizing agent conflicts with his/her religious beliefs
- Signed documentation from a physician indicating that the immunization is contraindicated for a valid medical reason

If an outbreak of these diseases occurs, any students not having provided proof of proper immunization, including part-time students and students who are exempt, may be barred from class attendance until the outbreak is over.

**Parking and Traffic**

Students may park in lots 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7 & 8. Students are not allowed to park in the visitor’s lot. Parking in spaces designated for disabled individuals is reserved for vehicles authorized under laws of the State of New Jersey, and is monitored by the Branchburg Police Department. Parking is prohibited on all roadways, lawns, medians, crosswalks, loading zones, marked emergency fire lanes, emergency phone access lanes or any other areas designated by the College unless authorized by Campus Safety.

Overnight parking is prohibited anywhere. Drivers must adhere to all posted speed limits on campus and must yield to pedestrians in crosswalks. Persons in violation of these regulations are subject
to towing, citations, and fines. The College is not responsible for any damage to the vehicle during towing. The College is not responsible for any injury, property damage, or loss sustained by a vehicle’s owner/driver while on College property.

Under New Jersey law, a disabled person may obtain either a special license plate or vehicle placard that provides special parking privileges. To park in a designated disabled area on campus, you must have handicap license plates or the placard, which is only provided by your local police department. Temporary placards can be issued to a person who has temporarily lost mobility as certified by a physician. Placards must be displayed in full view. Any person without a placard properly displayed, may receive a parking summons and fine, at the discretion of the Branchburg Police Department.

**Sales & Solicitation**

The College bookstore and food service are the only agencies on campus authorized to sell or solicit on campus. Any others wishing to do so should contact the Director of Student Life in the College Center or the Executive Director of the Foundation.

**Smoking and Tobacco Use**

To provide a healthy working environment for the College community, RV is a tobacco-free and smoke-free environment, with the exception of main campus parking lot areas that are at least 50 feet or more from any College building. Persons in violation of this policy are subject to citations, fines, and/or other disciplinary actions. Citations may be issued without prior warnings. This policy includes vaporizers and/or electronic cigarettes as well as chewing tobacco products.

**Weather Closings and Other Delayed Openings**

If the College announces a delayed opening at any location due to inclement weather or other emergency situation, all offices will be closed and all College classes and/or other activities will be suspended at that location until the delayed opening time.

Classes scheduled to begin before the delayed opening time that have 60 minutes or more of instruction time remaining at the delayed opening time will begin at the delayed opening time and conclude at the regularly scheduled ending time. Classes scheduled to begin before the delayed opening time that have fewer than 60 minutes of instruction time remaining at the delayed opening time will be cancelled. Classes scheduled to begin at or after the delayed opening time will meet as scheduled. Sign up for Campus Closing Notifications in the Lion’s Den.
Computer & Network Use Policies

The college provides all registered students with email accounts (Lion Mail) through Outlook/Office 365. This account is used by the college for all official communications with the student. The account is available for 13 months for student use after they have left the college.

Duration of Network Accounts

RV credit students’ accounts will remain active for 1 year and 1 day from the last semester they registered for a class. Continuing Education students’ Internet accounts will last the duration of their classes and for whatever additional time the Continuing Education administrators determine the course content requires Internet access. This will be determined in consultation with Technology Services. Fees for these courses will reflect the costs of the required Internet access.

There will be no multi-accounts issued without the authorization of the Vice President of Technology, Assessment and Planning.

Internet Code of Conduct

Students are held to a Code of Conduct which governs use of technology at RV. Use of technology includes physical technology as well as wireless resources and the various computer networks which are used by the college. Details of the Internet Code of Conduct can be found on the College’s website.

College Provider Code

As an Internet provider and an institution of higher education, RV is committed to the principles of personal privacy and the free and open discussion of ideas. RV, therefore, pledges that it will do everything possible to ensure the confidentiality of user files and individual usage information.

College Computer Laboratory Users’ Agreement

Computer use is restricted to currently enrolled RV students. Priority is for academic use in the following order: 1. computer course assignments; 2. other academic assignments; 3. general research

Users must relinquish their computers to students needing them for a higher priority use. All users of RVCC’s computers acknowledge a full awareness of an agreement to RV Computer Users’ Regulations. Violations of these, including tampering with the equipment or the software, may result in campus or civil prosecution. For further information or to report a violation, contact Technology Services at ext. 7887.

Civil and Criminal Penalties for Violation of Federal Copyright Laws

Copyright infringement is the act of exercising, without permission or legal authority, one or more of the exclusive rights granted to the copyright owner under section 106 of the Copyright Act (Title 17 of the United States Code). These rights include the right to reproduce or distribute a copyrighted work. In the file-sharing context, downloading or uploading substantial parts of a copyrighted work without authority constitutes an infringement.
Penalties for copyright infringement include civil and criminal penalties. In general, anyone found liable for civil copyright infringement may be ordered to pay either actual damages or "statutory" damages affixed at not less than $750 and not more than $30,000 per work infringed. For "willful" infringement, a court may award up to $150,000 per work infringed. A court can, in its discretion, also assess costs and attorneys' fees. For details, see Title 17, United States Code, Sections 504, 505.

Willful copyright infringement can also result in criminal penalties, including imprisonment of up to five years and fines of up to $250,000 per offense.

For more information, please see the Web site of the U.S. Copyright Office at www.copyright.gov, especially their FAQ's at www.copyright.gov/help/faq

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Valentina Giraldo
Class of 2014
Transferred to the College of Saint Elizabeth

“To me, success is achieving the goals we have set for ourselves. Most of the time, we are the ones who create the biggest obstacles to reach our goals.”
Student Code of Conduct

One of the core values of Raritan Valley Community College is fostering an environment of mutual respect, responsibility, and collaboration. The Student Code of Conduct (Code) establishes expectations of behavior for all students regardless of enrollment status or campus location. The provisions of the Code govern the actions of all students whether at a College-owned or managed location or at a College-sponsored or supervised function or event. This Code applies to behavior directed toward any member of the College Community as well as a student’s conduct during Academic Placements.

Upon admission to the College, a student incurs the responsibility for becoming familiar with and abiding by, the provisions of the Code. Violations of the Code may result in a student receiving a failing grade on an assignment or in a course, required community service, Disciplinary Warning, Disciplinary Probation, Disciplinary Suspension, Dismissal, or other appropriate penalty.

The following is a portion of the Raritan Valley Community College Code of Student Conduct. The entire document and relevant policies can be found online. If you have questions about the Code of Conduct, contact the Assistant Dean of Student Services in College Center, C-143; or the Dean of Academic Affairs in College Center, C-150 for violations relating to academic dishonesty, cheating or plagiarism.

Violations of the Code for Academic Dishonesty, Cheating and Plagiarism

Raritan Valley Community College requires independent, honest work on the part of its students, and students are expected to conduct themselves with scholarly integrity. Each confirmed incident of academic dishonesty, cheating or plagiarism must be reported by the faculty member, in writing, to the Dean of Academic Affairs. Specific examples of academic dishonesty and cheating can be viewed within the student conduct section of the College website.

Jacob Mittlestadt-Raab
Class of 2014
Transferred to Emerson College
“Success means dreaming big and accomplishing bigger.”
For classroom violations, the following additional penalties may apply.

1. Academic Dishonesty

Penalties for confirmed cheating and plagiarism are as follows:

- **First Offense:** The faculty member will have the authority to issue a failure on the paper, exam, assignment or course on which cheating or plagiarism was established. In general, plagiarism that the faculty member considers to be serious and proven shall result in failure for the course. The faculty member must report the violation in writing to the Dean of Academic Affairs.

- **Subsequent Offense(s):** As with the first offense, the faculty member will have the authority to issue a failure for the paper, exam, assignment, or course about which cheating or plagiarism was established and must report the violation. Upon confirmation of the student’s subsequent offense by the Dean of Academic Affairs, the student will be subject to suspension or dismissal from the College.

2. Disruptive Behavior in the Classroom

Faculty members have the authority to take actions which may be necessary to maintain order and proper conduct in the classroom. Students whose behavior disrupts the class will be subject to removal and may be charged with a violation of the Code of Student Conduct. Code of Conduct charges will be investigated by the Assistant Dean of Student Services. If the student behavior presents a concern for immediate safety of the student or members of the community, the student may be suspended until a Disciplinary Review is held.

3. Sexual Harassment and Discrimination

It is the policy of RV to provide an environment that is free from harassment and discrimination. Students are encouraged to report any incidents of discrimination, harassment, sexual violence, and bullying which cause physical or emotional harm; or create a hostile environment which interferes with your education or your rights as a student. This includes any gesture, any written, verbal or physical act, or electronic communication, whether it be a single incident or a series of incidents, which you perceive as motivated by race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, or a mental, physical or sensory disability which substantially disrupts or interferes with the operation of the college or the rights of a student. If you believe you are being harassed report the situation immediately. If immediate attention is needed, always contact Campus Safety by picking up a red phone in the halls or calling 908-231-8800.

Title IX of the Educational Amendments of 1972 specifically prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex in education, programs and activities. Discrimination under Title IX includes sexual harassment or sexual violence, such as rape, sexual assault, sexual battery, and sexual coercion. Confidentiality will always be maintained insofar as it does not interfere with the college’s legal obligation to investigate allegations of misconduct when brought to the college’s attention, and the ability of the college to take corrective action consistent with rights of due process.

All inquiries and complaints should be addressed to Nancy Moore, VP for Human Resources Office, 908-526-1200, ext 8345. Personal counselors are available for assistance in the Advising and Counseling Office, College Center C-163.
Sexual Misconduct and Violence
Raritan Valley Community College affirms the rights of its students, faculty, and staff to live, work, and study in an environment free from violence and sexual misconduct (sexual assault, sexual harassment, dating/domestic violence, and sexual exploitation). Sex offenses violate college regulations and criminal law. Any reported violation will be treated swiftly through established college disciplinary procedures and/or legal avenues. Reports of Sexual Misconduct and Violence can be reported to Campus Safety and/or The Office of the Dean of Student Services. Confidential support services can also be obtained from our team of counselors within the Office of Advising and Counseling Services and from outside agencies.

Contact Information for the Title IX Coordinator:
Nancy Moore, Title IX Coordinator
Vice President of Human Resources and Labor Relations
Nancy.Moore@raritanval.edu

Additional resources, including a form to report incidents, may be found at on the College’s website.

The following can be expected for all cases/investigations that are designated a Title IX incident:

- The college will provide a timely and thorough investigation, and will treat all parties with respect before, during, and after the student conduct process.
- Cases of sexual misconduct or sexual harassment shall be resolved within a 60 day period once the incident has been reported.
- Once a decision has been rendered all of the involved parties will be informed of the decision.
- All involved parties have 5 Business Days to appeal the decision.
- If any involved party appeals, all other parties will be informed and will have the opportunity to review the appeal materials. The other involved parties, if they choose to do so, can submit a statement of response within 5 Business Days of receiving notice of the appeal.

Sexual Consent
Consent is defined as giving explicit permission to participate in any sexual act. Consent must be active, not passive; it cannot be implied or assumed. Each partner must knowingly give permission each and every time they engage in a sexual act.

Consent cannot be given if either participant is:
- under age
- incapacitated
- mentally handicapped/impaired
- asleep
- being threatened, forced or coerced
Code of Student Conduct Violations

All students shall obey the law, show respect for properly constituted authority, and observe correct standards of conduct in the classroom, college offices and on college property. Violations will be reported to the Assistant Dean of Student Services. In addition to activities prohibited by law or identified under the academic violations, the following types of behavior shall be prohibited and considered violations of the Code of Conduct:

1. Behavior that violates the standards of classroom decorum set out by an instructor in the course outline/syllabus.

2. Disruption of any College class by engaging in conduct that renders it difficult or impossible to maintain the learning environment of the class.

3. Physical or verbal abuse or harassment that injures another person or threatens another person and/or creates a hostile environment for any member of the College community. Sub categories included under physical abuse and harassment also include the following:

   • Domestic violence includes asserted violent misdemeanor and felony offenses committed by the victim’s current or former spouse, current or former cohabitant, person similarly situated under domestic or family violence law, or anyone else protected under domestic or family violence law.

   • Dating violence means violence by a person who has been in a romantic or intimate relationship with the victim. Whether there was such relationship will be gauged by its length, type, and frequency of interaction.

   • Rape, defined as, the penetration, no matter how slight, of the vagina or anus with any body part or object, or oral penetration by a sex organ of another person, without the consent of the victim

   • Stalking, defined as a person who purposely and repeatedly engages in a course of conduct directed at a specific member of the campus community that would cause a reasonable person to fear bodily injury or death to him or herself or a member of his or her family.

4. Harassment, intimidation or bullying in gesture; written, verbal or electronic communication that is motivated by actual or perceived characteristics such as race, color religion, gender, sexual orientation or disability as well as violations of the RV policy on Student Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying by students.

5. Any non-consensual physical contact of a sexual nature; voyeurism or making, attempting to make, viewing, transmitting, or attempting to transmit audio or video of any person(s) where there is an expectation of privacy with respect to nudity and/ or sexual activity without the knowledge and consent of all participants subject to such recordings.

6. Initiating or causing to be initiated any false report, warning or threat of fire, explosion, or other emergency on college premises or at college-sponsored activities.

7. Intentionally or recklessly disrupting normal college or college-sponsored activities, including but not limited to, studying, teaching, tutoring, research, college administration, or fire, security, or emergency services. This includes violating any established or published college policy.
8. Unauthorized use of computer hardware or software including intentionally developing programs that harass others or infiltrate the system to damage or alter the computing system. This also includes the use of RV networking resources for any illegal purpose such as unauthorized Peer to Peer file sharing and the unauthorized distribution or downloading of copyrighted material. Violators may also be subject to civil and criminal liabilities.

9. Intentionally and substantially interfering with the freedoms of movement or expression of others on college premises or at college-sponsored activities.

10. Intentionally or recklessly destroying or damaging college property or property of others on college premises or at college-sponsored activities.

11. Failure to comply with the direction of college officials, including Campus Safety staff, acting in performance of their duties; or making false statements to college officials.

12. Unauthorized presence on or use of college premises.

13. Causing or participating in disorderly, disruptive, or inappropriate behavior.

14. Unauthorized possession, consumption or transfer of any alcoholic beverage on the premises of the College or at a College-sponsored activity. Students found on campus grounds noticeably intoxicated may also be disciplined under the Code of Student Conduct regardless of age.

15. The possession or use of controlled dangerous substances, marijuana, steroids, or narcotics, including, but not limited to, opiates (morphine, codeine, heroin), prescription drugs in possession of someone other than the prescribed individual, misuse of prescribed drugs, and every other substance not chemically distinguishable from them (i.e. imitation/synthetic products such as bath salts and/or K2) as well as any drug paraphernalia, on campus or during any college sponsored event is prohibited.

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Dana Davis
Class of 2014
Transferred to Rider University

“Raritan Valley gave me a warm re-introduction to school after 20 years... I left RVCC with a sense that I can achieve anything at any age.”
16. Possession of weapons, ammunition, explosives or other dangerous items on College property without the expressed authorization from Campus Safety. This policy applies to items that appear to be weapons, ammunition, explosives or other dangerous items as well as non-prohibited items that are used to endanger or cause fear. Persons may be turned over to the local police.

17. Alteration or misuse of College documents, records or identification or knowingly submitting false or altered documents to the College.

18. Theft of College property or any individual’s private property located on the College campus or College-sponsored activities.

19. Gambling on the College campus or any College function.

20. Bribery or attempted bribery of any college official or entity with a direct relationship with the college community.

21. Repeated violations of established college rules and regulations regardless of the seriousness of the individual offence involved.

22. Violation of any College policy or regulation. This includes violations of state, local or federal law.

**Sanctions & Penalties for Violations**

Violations to the Code of Student Conduct either in the classroom, on campus, or with College-sponsored activities may result in specific sanctions including the following: written or verbal warning; probation; suspension; dismissal; or the imposition of such penalties as are found to be appropriate. Students who wish to challenge an accusation of Academic Dishonesty should speak to the Dean of Academic Affairs and may request a formal Disciplinary Review to adjudicate the matter.

If there is immediate concern for the safety of the student or members of the College community, students may be suspended until such time as a Disciplinary Review is held. Under certain circumstances students will not be allowed to return to campus until certain conditions are met.

**Disciplinary Procedures for Violations of the Code of Conduct**

Pending College actions or violation of College regulations and civil or criminal laws, the right of a student to be present on the campus can be suspended for reasons related to the student’s physical and/or emotional safety and the well-being of the College community. The College reserves the right to take disciplinary action where off-campus offenses are involved and where the interests of the College as an educational community are clearly threatened.

Accused student(s) are presumed to be not responsible for violations. Responsibility must be established by a preponderance of evidence. This standard requires that the Disciplinary Review Board or Conduct Officer must be persuaded that it is more likely than not that the allegations brought against the accused student are true.

Where there is an alleged breach of the Code of Conduct by a student, the Office of the Dean of Student Services follows specific procedures to process Student Conduct incidents. Please visit the Student Services section of the College website under Student Conduct for additional information. Mid-year changes to the Code of Conduct will be reflected within college’s policy library and online.
Emergency Procedures

The College Administration regards your continued safety as one of its highest priorities. In the event you need to speak with someone in the Campus Safety Office, it is located on the lower level of Somerset Hall, near the Welcome Center. The College has an Emergency Management Plan, and regularly coordinates emergency activities with local law enforcement and other emergency responders.

To report an on-campus emergency, requiring immediate attention, call 908-231-8800; for an off-campus emergency, call 911.

Phone: 908-231-8800 (direct line)

Confidential TIPS hotline: 908-231-8806 (Call to report suspicious people, behavior or packages, someone in distress or threats of violence. All calls are confidential. You do not need to give your name.)

In Case of Emergency – Follow These Procedures

Fire or Smoke in a Building

If you smell smoke or see flames call Campus Safety at 908-231-8800 and pull the fire alarm device.

- Alarms will ring, horns will sound and strobe lights will flash
- Quick alert will be broadcast by phone, text or email message to those signed up for emergency notification service
- Follow directions of Evacuation Marshalls and leave your area as quickly & orderly as possible
- Take coat, wallet, keys & books and proceed to the nearest exit sign to get outside. Check evacuation directions posted on the wall near the door
- Do not evacuate to the center courtyard of the campus
- Do not attempt to put out the fire. Select employees have been trained to use fire extinguishers
- Do not use elevators
- Once outside, move at least 250 feet away from the building to a designated area as directed by the Evacuation Marshall

- Evacuate to a position of safety (Parking lots or Ball fields)

Threatening Person on Campus

If you see anyone on campus carrying a firearm or other weapon call Campus Safety at 908-231-8800

- Quick alert will be broadcast by phone, text or email message to those signed up for emergency notification service
- Stay in your classroom/office
- If you are walking in the hallways or between buildings, enter the nearest open classroom or office
- Inside a room, pull down the shades and then stay away from windows and doors
- If advised by College personnel, barricade the doors with desks and chairs
- College personnel will lock exterior & interior doors as directed by police
• Wait for instructions from the Emergency Management Team or law enforcement
• **Do not confront anyone with a weapon**

**Weather/Environmental Emergency**
• Stay in your classroom/office until the situation is assessed
• After condition subsides, you will be advised about whether to remain in the classroom/office or evacuate
• Quick alert will be broadcast by phone, text or email message to those signed up for emergency notification service

**Power Outage**
• Emergency lights will be activated
• Quick alert will be broadcast by phone, text or email message to those signed up for emergency notification service
• Evacuation Marshalls will provide direction
• Stay in your classroom/office until the situation is assessed
• Campus Safety personnel will increase patrols to provide assistance and status reports
• Continuation of classes will be based on the power company’s estimation of when power will be restored

**Campus Closings & Delayed Openings**
In the event of inclement weather, check to see if the College is open or has a delayed opening.
• Quick alert will be broadcast by phone, text or email message to those signed up for emergency notification service
• Check the College website at [www.raritanval.edu](http://www.raritanval.edu)
College Board of Trustees
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Robert P. Wise, Vice Chair, Hunterdon
Tracy DiFrancesco Zaikov, Vice Chair, Somerset
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Michael J. McDonough, President
John Trojan, Vice President of Finance and Facilities
Charles E. Chulvick, Vice President for Technology, Assessment and Planning
Jacki Belin, Vice President for Strategic Programs and Development
Nancy Moore, Vice President for Human Resources and Labor Relations
Diane Lemcoe, Dean of Student Services
Richeleen Dashield, Dean of Multicultural Affairs
Calendar Of Events
Visual and Performing Arts

September
  7-25  Art Faculty Exhibition
  11  Artists’ Talk & Reception

October
  2  Artists’ Talk & Reception
  2-23  Glyphs and Passages

November
  4-7  Theatre Production I
  6  Awards & Reception
  6-24  Juried Art Students Exhibition
  11  Student Music Recital
  17-20  Theatre Production II
          21  The Icarus Project, a new dance opera...and other Faculty works

December
  1-2  Student Dance Concert
  1-4 & 7  Holiday Art Show and Sale
          4  RVCC Chorale
          10  Student Dance Informal & RVCC Jazz Ensemble
          14  Scene Festival

January
  29  Artists’ Talk & Reception
  29-31  Independent Study Students Exhibition

February
  1-12  Independent Study Students Exhibition
  19  Artists’ Talk & Reception
  19-29  Solo Exhibition
          26  Faculty Music Recital

March
  1-11  Solo Exhibition
  25-31  Student Art Exhibition Part I
  30-31  Theatre Production III

April
  1-2  Theatre Production III
  13-16  Theatre Production IV
  15  Reception
  15-29  Student Art Exhibition Part II
          20  Student Music Recital
          21  Student Dance Informal & RVCC Jazz Ensemble
  27-28  Student Dance Concert
          30  RVCC Chorale

May
  2  Scene Festival
**Athletics**

Home games are marked in **Green**. Schedules are subject to change.

**Women’s Soccer**

- **Thursday, Aug. 20,** (Scrimmage) @ 2 pm
- **Tuesday, Aug. 25,** (Scrimmage) @ 3 pm
- **Saturday, Aug. 29,** Camden CC @ 11 am
- **Tuesday, Sep. 1,** Ocean CC @ 4 pm
- **Tuesday, Sep. 8,** Bucks County CC @ 3:30 pm
- **Saturday, Sep. 12,** Montgomery CC @ 12 pm
- **Tuesday, Sep. 15,** Bergen CC @ 3:30 pm

**Thursday, Sep. 17,** **Middlesex CC** @ 3:30 pm

**Saturday, Sep. 19,** **Cumberland CC** @ 11 am

**Tuesday, Sep. 22,** Manor College @ 3:30 pm

- **Thursday, Sep. 24,** Northampton CC @ 3:30 pm

**Saturday, Sep. 26,** **Rowan College at Gloucester County** @ 11 am

**Tuesday, Sep. 29,** Brookdale CC @ 3:30 pm

**Thursday, Oct. 1,** **Union CC** @ 3:30 pm

**Tuesday, Oct. 6,** Sussex County CC @ 3:30 pm

**Saturday, Oct. 10,** **Valley Forge Military Academy** @ 11 am

**Saturday, Oct. 12,** County College of Morris @ 12 pm

**Men’s Soccer**

- **Thursday, Aug. 20,** (Scrimmage) @ 2 pm
- **Tuesday, Aug. 25,** (Scrimmage) @ 3:30 pm
- **Saturday, Aug. 29,** Camden CC @ 1:15 pm
- **Tuesday, Sep. 1,** Ocean CC @ 4 pm
- **Tuesday, Sep. 8,** Sussex County CC @ 3:30 pm
- **Tuesday, Sep. 15,** Bergen CC @ 3:30 pm
- **Thursday, Sep. 17,** Middlesex CC @ 3:30 pm

**Saturday, Sep. 19,** **Cumberland CC** @ 1:30 pm

**Tuesday, Sep. 22,** **County College of Morris** @ 3:30 pm

**Thursday, Sep. 24,** Passaic County CC @ 3:30 pm

**Saturday, Sep. 26,** **Rowan College at Gloucester County** @ 1:30 pm

**Tuesday, Sep. 29,** Brookdale CC @ 3:30 pm

**Thursday, Oct. 1,** **Union CC** @ 3:30 pm

**Tuesday, Oct. 6,** Lehigh Carbon CC @ 3:30 pm

**Saturday, Oct. 10,** **Williamson Free Trade** @ 1:30 pm

**Tuesday, Oct. 13,** Community College of Philadelphia @ 3:30 pm

**Saturday, Oct. 17,** Harrisburg Area CC @ 1 pm

**Women’s Volleyball**

**Thursday, Sep. 17,** **Union CC** @ 6:30 pm

**Tuesday, Sep. 22,** Middlesex CC @ 7 pm

**Tuesday, Sep. 29,** **Rowan College at Gloucester County** @ 6:30 pm

**Thursday, Oct. 1,** Bergen CC @ 7 pm

**Tuesday, Oct. 6,** Brookdale CC @ 7 pm

**Saturday, Oct. 10,** **Ocean CC** @ 12 pm

**Tuesday, Oct. 13,** Passaic County College @ 6:30 pm
6
THURSDAY

7
FRIDAY

8
SATURDAY

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13 **THURSDAY**

14 **FRIDAY**

15 **SATURDAY**

16 **SUNDAY**
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27  THURSDAY

New Student BBQ, 4-6 pm, West Building Courtyard

28  FRIDAY

30  SUNDAY
First Day of Fall Semester Classes
SEPTEMBER 2015

7 MONDAY

Labor Day

8 TUESDAY

College Closed

9 WEDNESDAY
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- **Rosh Hashanah** (Begins at sundown)
Fall Student Picnic, 12:30-2:20 pm, Courtyard

12 Week Late Start Session Begins
Convocation/Club Recruitment Day,
12:30-2:20 pm, Courtyard

Yom Kippur (Begins at sundown)
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**AUGUST 2015**

**SEPTEMBER 2015**

**OCTOBER 2015**

**THURSDAY**

**FRIDAY**

**SATURDAY**

**SUNDAY**

Planetarium Welcome, Free Laser Show, 1:15 pm, Planetarium
28  MONDAY

29  TUESDAY

30  WEDNESDAY

Adjusting to College Life, 1-2 pm,
Location TBA
OCTOBER 2015

5 MONDAY

6 TUESDAY

7 WEDNESDAY

President’s Adult Student Welcome Dinner, 4:30-6 pm, Conference Center
8 THURSDAY

9 FRIDAY

10 SATURDAY

11 SUNDAY

“Flashdance-The Musical,” 8pm, Theatre
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<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>MONDAY</td>
<td>Columbus Day</td>
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</table>
15 THURSDAY

Meet the President & Executive Staff, 1-2:20 pm, Bateman Center

16 FRIDAY

17 SATURDAY

18 SUNDAY
First 7-Week Session Ends

Second 7-Week Session Begins
22
THURSDAY

23
FRIDAY

“Truth Values,” 7pm, Theatre

24
SATURDAY

Capitol Steps, 8pm, Theatre

25
SUNDAY
27 TUESDAY

“Hard Travelin’ with Woody,” 12 & 7pm, Theatre

28 WEDNESDAY
29  THURSDAY

30  FRIDAY

31  SATURDAY  Halloween

1  SUNDAY  NOV

Academic Planning & Beyond, 1-2 pm, Location TBA
Halloween Costume Contest, 12:30-2:30 pm, FYE Suite, College Center C143
5  THURSDAY

6  FRIDAY

7  SATURDAY

8  SUNDAY

10 Hairy Legs, 3pm, Theatre
How to Make the Most of Your RVCC Experience, 1-2 pm, Location TBD
19 THURSDAY

20 FRIDAY

21 SATURDAY

22 SUNDAY

Sgt. Pepper’s Lonely Hearts Club Band, 2pm, Theatre
26 THURSDAY

Thanksgiving Day

27 FRIDAY

College Closed

28 SATURDAY

College Closed

29 SUNDAY

College Closed
<table>
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<th>Weekday</th>
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<td>THURSDAY</td>
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<td>FRIDAY</td>
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<td>SATURDAY</td>
<td>Chanukah (Begins at sundown)</td>
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</table>
De-Stress for Success, 12-2 pm, Purple Wall, College Center
10  THURSDAY

11  FRIDAY

“The Great Russian Nutcracker,” 4 & 8pm, Theatre

12  SATURDAY

End of Second Seven Week Session

13  SUNDAY

“A Christmas Carol,” 2pm, Theatre
<table>
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<th>Date</th>
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<th>Event Description</th>
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<td>14</td>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>Last Day of Fall Semester Classes</td>
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<td>15</td>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>Reading Day, No Classes or Exams, “It’s A Wonderful Life,” 2 &amp; 7pm, Theatre</td>
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<td>16</td>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>Final Exams</td>
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17  THURSDAY  

Final Exams

18  FRIDAY  

Final Exams  

“A Christmas Gathering,” 8pm, Theatre

19  SATURDAY

Final Exams

20  SUNDAY  

Final Exams

89
Final Exams
Final Exams
24 **THURSDAY**

College Closed, Winter Recess

25 **FRIDAY**

Christmas Day

College Closed, Winter Recess

26 **SATURDAY**

Kwanzaa (Begins)

College Closed, Winter Recess

27 **SUNDAY**

College Closed, Winter Recess
College Closed, Winter Recess

College Closed, Winter Recess

College Closed, Winter Recess
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<td>THURSDAY</td>
<td>College Closed, Winter Recess</td>
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<td>FRIDAY</td>
<td>New Year’s Day</td>
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First Day of Intersession Classes
Last Day of Intersession Classes

“Saturday Night Fever,” 8pm, Theatre
18  MONDAY

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

19  TUESDAY

First Day of Spring Semester Classes

20  WEDNESDAY

College Closed
25 MONDAY

26 TUESDAY

“Rhapsody in Black,” 12 & 7pm, Theatre

27 WEDNESDAY
FEBRUARY 2016

1  MONDAY

2  TUESDAY
  Groundhog Day

3  WEDNESDAY

12-Week Late Start Session Begins
FRIDAY

SATURDAY

THURSDAY

SUNDAY

4 THURSDAY

5 FRIDAY

“Beauty,” 7pm, Theatre

6 SATURDAY

7 SUNDAY

“Life in Motion,” 2 & 7pm, Theatre
FEBRUARY 2016

8  MONDAY

9  TUESDAY

10 WEDNESDAY  Ash Wednesday
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<td>12</td>
<td>FRIDAY</td>
<td>Lincoln’s Birthday</td>
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<td>“One Funny Mother: I’m Not Crazy,”</td>
<td>Theatre</td>
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<td>8pm, Theatre</td>
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<td>Valentine’s Day</td>
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<td>“An Afternoon with Cornell Gunter’s Coasters, The Drifters &amp; The Platters,” 2pm, Theatre</td>
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15 MONDAY

16 TUESDAY

17 WEDNESDAY

"Moby Dick," 12 & 7pm, Theatre
Kate Clinton, 8pm, Theatre
FEBRUARY 2016

22 MONDAY Washington’s Birthday

23 TUESDAY

24 WEDNESDAY
25  THURSDAY

26  FRIDAY

27  SATURDAY

28  SUNDAY
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- **FRIDAY, 4th March**
  - New Shanghai Circus, 7pm, Theatre

- **SATURDAY, 5th March**
  - First 7-Week Session Ends
  - Lustig Dance Theatre, 8pm, Theatre
Spring Recess, No Academic Classes

Spring Recess, No Academic Classes

Spring Recess, No Academic Classes
10
THURSDAY

Spring Recess, No Academic Classes

11
FRIDAY

Spring Recess, No Academic Classes

12
SATURDAY

Spring Recess, No Academic Classes

13
SUNDAY

San Jose Taiko, 3pm, Theatre
Second 7-Week Session Begins
17 THURSDAY

St. Patrick’s Day

18 FRIDAY

19 SATURDAY

“A Midsummer Night’s Dream,”
8pm, Theatre

20 SUNDAY

Palm Sunday
MARCH 2016

21 MONDAY

22 TUESDAY

23 WEDNESDAY

Purim (Begins at sundown)
24 THURSDAY

25 FRIDAY

Good Friday

26 SATURDAY

27 SUNDAY

“The Pigeoning,” 2 & 7pm, Theatre
31 THURSDAY

1 FRIDAY April Fool’s Day

2 SATURDAY

3 SUNDAY
21  THURSDAY

22  FRIDAY  Passover (Begins at sundown)

23  SATURDAY

24  SUNDAY

“Sacred Music Sacred Dance,”
8pm, Theatre
28  THURSDAY

29  FRIDAY

30  SATURDAY

1  SUNDAY

Second 7-Week Session Ends
MAY 2016

2 MONDAY

Last Day of Spring Semester Classes

3 TUESDAY

Reading Day, No Classes or Exams

“Lilia!,” 12 & 7pm, Theatre

4 WEDNESDAY

Final Exams
Final Exams

Final Exams
“The Complete History of Comedy (abridged),” 7pm, Theatre
MAY 2016

23 MONDAY

24 TUESDAY

25 WEDNESDAY
30  MONDAY
  MEMORIAL DAY

31  TUESDAY

  COLLEGE CLOSED

  WEDNESDAY

  JUN