



NEWS

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NIGHT MOVES—GCC NETWORKING PROGRAM CONNECTS WORKING ADULTS TO CAREER CHANGE

Deptford Twp. – Working adults looking to change careers or merely enhance their information technology (IT) skills to improve job merit can now do so at night in Gloucester County College’s expanded Computer Networking program.

GCC’s new program format makes earning a certificate in network management attainable during the evening within one year or one and one-half years. The availability of nine evening courses, offering a wide range of administrative knowledge-based instruction, takes away the worry of having to choose between a paycheck and a class. In addition, completion of the program has been modified to better meet the demand of business hiring needs.

“We have restructured our program to get the students into the job market at a time when the job market is focused on hiring, which is January through May of each year,” said GCC Network Management instructor Mike Pawela.

While the program is designed to conclude each December, students have the flexibility to begin taking classes in either fall or spring. Depending on the date of enrollment, students generally take a minimum of two classes a semester. Individuals beginning in the spring, however, are required to take three courses their first semester.

“The hiring cycle of most companies looking for IT professionals is the start of a new budget year,” noted Pawela. “GCC students will be trained and ready to enter the workforce at the most opportune time. Some may also decide to continue their education, going on to earn associate or bachelor’s degrees.”

With terms like hard drive, Podcast, email and booting up becoming common place in today's PC-oriented world, practically every business, industry, and institution depends on the convenience and speed associated with computers. Becoming computer literate is proving to be a database of pluses providing a wide-range of in-demand career opportunities with lucrative salaries. All businesses, schools, and medical facilities require computer technicians, and these are jobs that cannot be "shipped" overseas.

"Network management, while technical and not perceived as glamorous, is very interesting and offers job security in a scaleable career," stated Pawela. "You can raise a family on this career. Skilled computer technicians have the capability of making a six figure salary within five to 10 years."

For more information about GCC's Network Management program, call (856) 415-2151. The registration schedule may be seen by visiting the College Web site at www.gccnj.edu. Spring classes begin January 20.

GCC's 250-acre campus is located on Tanyard Road in Deptford, just off Exit 56 of Route 55.