

Speakers Bureau

Missouri Western State University

For more information or to schedule a speaker, call Alicia Otto at (816) 271-5670 or email aotto@missouriwestern.edu.

Table of Contents

About Missouri Western
Animals
Arts
Athletics
Business
Careers
Children
Communication
Economics
Education
Entrepreneurism and Small Business
Foreign Countries and Cultural Diversity
Gender and Identity
Geography
Health and Healthcare
Higher Education
Internet
Investments
Law
Literature
Marketing and Sales
Music
Personal Development
Psychology and Sociology
Science, Math and Technology
Student Affairs
Team Building
Work-related Issues

ABOUT MISSOURI WESTERN

Happy Centennial, Missouri Western!

In 2015, Missouri Western State University celebrated the 100th anniversary of its founding as St. Joseph Junior College in 1915. This is a fun, informative talk about the institution's history, with lots of interesting trivia.

Diane Holtz, Public Relations and Marketing

ANIMALS

Horses in History

A presentation about the horse in Medieval European culture, and the historic role of horses in European and American industry, travel, agriculture, warfare and society.

Dr. Cynthia Jeney, Associate Professor of English

ARTS

Arts: The Front Porch

The arts are the front porch of the University and our community. Presentation will talk about Missouri Western's commitment to welcoming everyone for gallery openings, concerts, plays and musicals. We bring communities together and open the door to new insights, ideas, cultures and entertainments.

Dr. Robert Willenbrink, Founding Dean of the School of Fine Arts

ATHLETICS

Athletics Facilities

A presentation about Missouri Western's athletics facilities, especially its newest athletics building, the Griffon Indoor Sports Complex, that contains an indoor football field. The presentation can also include information about the Kansas City Chiefs summer training camp on Missouri Western's campus.

Mike Halloran, Director of Athletics Facilities

Athletics Department

This presentation will share information about Missouri Western's athletics department and its success in the community, classroom and on the playing field. The speaker will talk about athletics-related subjects at the request of the audience.

Brett Esely, Associate AD - External Relations

BUSINESS

Applied Quantitative Methods in Decision Making

Learn basic and advanced skills of forecasting business variables, the forecasting of business management, sales, production, stocks, etc., the basic as well as advanced designated techniques involving judgmental methods, trend calculation, smoothing techniques, time series and regression analyses. Learn advanced quantitative methods applied in airport, airline, and bank management cases, and more.

Dr. Reza Hamzaee, Professor of Economics

How to Make a Company's Work a Success Story

Learn how to define value, vision, mission; how to distinguish between tactical and strategic decisions and policies, how to explore self-management and goals, objectives, and time management; how to manage your boss, your staff, and meetings; how to manage your reputation, how to manage challenges, conflicts, and crises; and more.

Dr. Reza Hamzaee, Professor of Economics

How to Operate, Manage, and Enhance Airlines and Airports Most Efficiently

Learn how to make a collective airline-airport efficiency strategic model, how to build an applied model of airline revenue management, and how airport efficiency can be achieved. Learn about assessment of airline revenue management: review and analysis, about a method of Total Factor Productivity Index for Airport Efficiency, and more.

Dr. Reza Hamzaee, Professor of Economics

Practical Project Management

This presentation will define project management, identify project phases, determine the project life cycle, analyze the five phases of the project life cycle, analyze the five mandatory actions, analyze creative problem solving, and discuss multiple project management.

Dr. Reza Hamzaee, Professor of Economics

Research for Consulting

Professional consulting is a rapidly growing field of professional work. This presentation will offer tips on how to prepare for the first meeting with a client, how to determine the initial estimate of needed time, labor, equipment, technology, etc., and how to assess the educational need(s) of the client(s) for a successful consulting result. Learn from a survey which areas of business have sought consultants' services.

Dr. Reza Hamzaee, Professor of Economics

CAREERS

Business Etiquette

Learn the ins and out of business etiquette, introductions, conversation, business cards and dining etiquette. Build confidence in yourself and your employees. Increase self-esteem and improve your overall business image.

Career Development Center

Interviewing

Learn how to prepare for the interview. What to bring, what questions to ask and how to answer difficult questions. Understand behavioral interviewing and know what to do before, during and after the interview.

Career Development Center

Job Searching in a Tough Market

Focuses on strategies to use for all types of job hunting.

Career Development Center

Managing and Motivating the Multigenerational Workforce

For the first time in our nation's history, we have five generations in our workforce. It is important to recognize what motivates each generation and moves companies toward a successful generationally diverse business. In this interactive session, you will learn that other generations aren't wrong; what drives them may just be different!

Career Development Center

Nursing Shortage

Description of the nursing and healthcare labor shortage in relation to population demographics and changes in the healthcare industry, both nationally and regionally. Includes strategies for addressing these issues.

Dr. Kathleen O'Connor, Dean of Professional Studies

Produce an Acceptable/Publishable Writing (A Successful Dissertation, or Post-doctoral Research)

This presentation will teach how to start scholarly research, select an interesting topic, and have a rough draft of the entire work's direction. A good dissertation is highlighted by a dynamic and inspiring literature review in which selection of pieces and quotes are most purposefully made. Model making, building theories, and deriving new methods, discovering new data sources of critical value, unique way of analyzing data, discovering new idea(s) and linkages among relevant variables in one's field, creating new statistical procedures, etc., are covered.

Dr. Reza Hamzaee, Professor of Economics

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Dr. Reza Hamzaee, Professor of Economics

Resumés and Cover Letters

Write the best resumé for the job you want. Know the buzz words and how to describe your qualifications so you get the interview. Learn the formula for a good cover letter.

Career Development Center

What Do You Want To Do When You Grow Up?

Helps participants discover their personal work preferences and incorporate them into their career goals. Suitable for all ages.

Career Development Center

CHILDREN

Adolescent Reasoning Skills

Contrasts adolescent and adult reasoning and decision-making processes pertaining to risk taking, identity development, and self-concept (positive and negative thinking).

Dr. Teddi Deka, Professor of Psychology

A Family's Journey with Down Syndrome

Tara Stoll has worked as a video producer for Missouri Western since 2000. In 2008, her daughter, Olivia, was born with Down syndrome. Tara enjoys educating the community about Down syndrome, including some medical and educational concerns, and discussing society's perception of people with special needs.

Tara Stoll, Video Communications Producer

Building Healthy Partnerships: The History of the Healthy Buddy Program

Explanation of a program developed to enhance the healthy behaviors of children attending Title I schools. Explains how university students enhanced their communication with children and learned about resources in the community.

Dr. Evelyn Brooks, Professor of Nursing

Infant Mental Development

Defines and explains the mental milestones that occur within the first two years of life and how to encourage/support learning in these years.

Dr. Teddi Deka, Professor of Psychology

COMMUNICATION

Cross-Cultural Communication: Awareness and Understanding

Discussion of communication between people from different cultures, including topics such as cultural value differences and ways to overcome the interaction barriers.

Dr. Mei Zhang, Professor of Communication

Introduction to Creating Multimedia Presentations

With the right hardware and software, creating basic multimedia projects is surprisingly easy. This workshop, which can run anywhere from 90 minutes to three hours, gives those attending hands-on experience in making multimedia.

Dr. Robert Bergland, Professor of Journalism

Online Journalism: The Convergence of Print and Broadcast Media

This presentation outlines how technology has changed the field of journalism – how the Internet, in allowing for sound, video and the immediate posting of stories, is becoming more and more like broadcast media.

Dr. Robert Bergland, Professor of Journalism

Who Told You THAT?

This lecture/interactive workshop focuses on how to identify credible sources in news media, social media, and internet postings. We are often bombarded with information that passes as “news” but to be smart consumers and politically engaged citizens, we need to decipher fact from

fake ... and even think critically about the facts that are presented truth.

Dr. Kay Siebler, Professor of English

ECONOMICS

Bank Valuation

Learn how to value tangible and intangible assets of a bank, how to assess the liabilities and equity capital of a bank, how to apply all financial ratios as measures of value of a bank, how to apply Asset Pricing Model in assessing risk and rate of return, and how to put a fair value on a bank.

Dr. Reza Hamzaee, Professor of Economics

Financial Engineering

Financial engineering is defined in several interesting ways, including the following two: 1) the use of financial instruments to restructure an existing financial profile into one having more desirable properties; and 2) the development and creative application of financial technology to solve financial problems and exploit financial opportunities. This seminar will cover the definition, tools, strategies, and goals of financial engineering through clear examples and specific methodologies used in modern financial markets, including some involving Iranian decision makers.

Dr. Reza Hamzaee, Professor of Economics

Foreign Direct Investment and Economic Growth: An Empirical Analysis

The world has realized an increasing importance for foreign direct investment (FDI) in the international economy since the early 1980s. The FDI flows to developing countries have also grown dramatically since the early 1990s. In this study, by applying a multiple regression analysis and the annual data for the period of 1969-1999, the impact of FDI on nine developing countries' economic growth were examined and found to be positively and significantly related.

Dr. Reza Hamzaee, Professor of Economics

How to Operate, Manage, and Enhance Airlines and Airports Most Efficiently

Learn how to make a collective airline-airport efficiency strategic model, how to build an applied model of airline revenue management, and how airport efficiency can be achieved. Learn about assessment of airline revenue management: review and analysis, about a method of Total Factor Productivity Index for Airport Efficiency, and more.

Dr. Reza Hamzaee, Professor of Economics

Interest Rates and the Economy

Topic will cover: The determinants of interest rates; different types of interest rates; the linkage between the economy and interest rates; monetary policy and interest rates; government budget and interest rates.

Dr. Reza Hamzaee, Professor of Economics

Interest-Rate Variations and the Central Bank's Monetary Policy

This workshop will cover topics such as the economic policy, the Central Bank's monetary policy, why and how interest rates should be changed, implications of interest rate variations on sectors of the Iranian economy, and more.

Dr. Reza Hamzaee, Professor of Economics

International Finance

This presentation will cover issues such as the basics of exchange rates, exchange rates and the prices of goods, the foreign exchange markets, the demand for currency and other assets, European monetary union, worldwide competition among stock markets, and more.

Dr. Reza Hamzaee, Professor of Economics

Managerial Economics: Applied Decision Sciences

This presentation will cover several topics on the fundamentals of managerial economics, including alternative forms of business organization, managerial finance in the 20th century, debt versus equity markets, money versus capital markets, world, national, regional, and local markets, quantitative demand analysis, and managing in competitive, monopolistic, and monopolistically competitive markets.

Dr. Reza Hamzaee, Professor of Economics

Managerial Finance

This course will cover issues such as alternative forms of business organization, managerial finance in the 20th century, debt versus equity markets, and money versus capital markets. Presentation will discuss replacement of capital assets decisions, expansion decisions, and independent or mutually exclusive projects.

Dr. Reza Hamzaee, Professor of Economics

Modern Financial Markets, Institutions, and Instruments

This presentation will cover several issues, such as the main economic function of financial markets, primary and secondary markets for financial instruments, and what distinguishes money markets from capital markets; the key financial instruments of the money and capital markets, and why automated financial trading has grown, and its implications for world financial markets.

Dr. Reza Hamzaee, Professor of Economics

New Banking Business Model

In this presentation, a cohesive analysis of modern banking in a competitive environment will be provided. Modern banking operations involve dynamic strategic planning in which a clear mission is declared; various strategies are formulated, and certain objectives and goals are placed in order.

Dr. Reza Hamzaee, Professor of Economics

Risk Management in the Banking System

In this seminar, the presenter will provide a clear analysis of uncertainties, the investment decisions for banks under risk, and uncertain financial environments. There will be hands-on experimental and numerical examples paralleled to the theoretical frameworks.

Dr. Reza Hamzaee, Professor of Economics

EDUCATION

Comparative Education Systems

Discussion of the different educational systems between the U.S. and Asia as a result of cultural value differences. Focuses on China.

Dr. Mei Zhang, Professor of Communication

How to Read College Level Material

The material we read in college is sometime very difficult. Learn some tips that will help you better understand articles and books, leading to better grades in high school and beyond.

Dr. James M. Okopal, Associate Professor of Philosophy

PORTAL: the Program of Research, Teaching, and Applied Learning

Missouri Western State University has a mission mandated by the State of Missouri to provide applied learning opportunities to its students. Applied learning refers to any activity outside of the classroom in which students use discipline-specific knowledge, including internships, practica, and student/faculty research. Undergraduate students who engage in applied learning get a value-added education that better prepares them to enter the workforce or pursue graduate study. Because it is a scholarly pursuit for students, applied learning is naturally tied to faculty scholarly activities. In all disciplines, applied learning opportunities arise when students work alongside faculty mentors who are pursuing their own professional scholarship goals. Missouri Western has a strong history of providing applied learning experiences for its students. But there is room for improvement. PORTAL, the Program of Research, Teaching, and Applied Learning, offers opportunities for faculty to engage during the summer in scholarly activities that provide applied learning experiences for students.

Dr. Todd Eckdahl, Professor of Biology

ENTREPRENEURISM AND SMALL BUSINESS

Selected Topics

Annette Weeks, Director of the Center for Entrepreneurship in the Craig School of Business, can tailor her presentation to fit the needs of the audience. Topics include how the CFE can help start-ups or existing small businesses, pitfalls to avoid in starting a new business, resources available for entrepreneurs, and more.

Annette Weeks, Center for Entrepreneurship

FOREIGN COUNTRIES AND CULTURAL DIVERSITY

All about Argentina

Learn about Argentina in this informative presentation – its people, culture, geography and more.

Ana Bausset-Page, Assistant Professor of Spanish

Costa Rica

Discussion of our Central American neighbor – Costa Rica. It's a great vacation destination, and now you can learn all about the country!

Ana Bausset-Page, Assistant Professor of Spanish

Chinese Culture and Society

Discussion of Chinese culture, communication, and society, including changes in the past few decades as a result of economic reform and opening to the West.

Dr. Mei Zhang, Professor of Communication

Comparative Education Systems

Discussion of the different educational systems between the U.S. and Asia as a result of cultural value differences. Focuses on China.

Dr. Mei Zhang, Professor of Communication

Comparative Healthcare

Discussion of communication differences in the healthcare settings between the U.S. and other countries. Focuses on China.

Dr. Mei Zhang, Professor of Communication

Cross-Cultural Communication: Awareness and Understanding

Discussion of communication between people from different cultures, including topics such as cultural value differences and ways to overcome the interaction barriers.

Dr. Mei Zhang, Professor of Communication

Foreign Direct Investment and Economic Growth: An Empirical Analysis

The world has realized an increasing importance for foreign direct investment (FDI) in the international economy since the early 1980s. The FDI flows to developing countries have also grown dramatically since the early 1990s. In this study, by applying a multiple regression analysis and the annual data for the period of 1969-1999, the impact of FDI on nine developing countries' economic growth were examined and found to be positively and significantly related.

Dr. Reza Hamzaee, Professor of Economics

A Fulbright Experience in Asia

Learn about teaching and research in India, Bangladesh and Nepal. Cultural, religious and personal encounters during a semester in Asia will be presented with powerpoints.

Dave Tushaus, Professor of Legal Studies

How to Confront Insensitive Language and Comments

Learn about some language and comments that are offensive to certain groups of people in the U.S. and abroad and why. After learning about various terms and sayings that are offensive you will have the opportunity to learn ways to interrupt those statements and words in an appropriate way that promotes learning for you and the other individual.

Latoya Fitzpatrick, Multicultural Education Coordinator

Life in Ukraine

Having spent five months teaching in Ukraine, this presenter would be happy to give talks about the country in general, its language, its culture, its political situation or its media.

Dr. Robert Bergland, Professor of Journalism

GENDER AND IDENTITY

Being Inclusive of the Transgender Community

This workshop will help you be more inclusive of the transgender community. Make your business or organization more inclusive for transgender employees, patrons, or customers. Learn about the context of local, state, and federal laws. Find practical, achievable solutions for your organization.

Dr. Linda Oakleaf, Assistant Professor of Health, Physical Education and Recreation

Female Sexuality in the Culture of Porn

In contemporary U.S. culture, sexual images are everywhere. So why are we so uncomfortable talking about healthy sexuality, especially from the female's perspective? This lecture debunks myths about female sexuality such as "men think about/want sex more than women." This lecture

focuses on healthy female sexuality at all ages.

Dr. Kay Siebler, Professor of English

Feminism 101

This lecture addresses the history of U.S. feminism, beginning in the mid-1850s through today. The status of women and trends regarding female empowerment and issues of social justice will carry us through to contemporary U.S. culture and what it means to identify as a feminist.

Dr. Kay Siebler, Professor of English

LGBTIPQ Identities

What are the distinctions between sex, sexuality, and gender? How can I be inclusive and welcoming to people of the LGBTIPQ community in my business, church, or personal life? This lecture answers the questions you might have about LGBTIPQ people so you can be a better neighbor, friend, parent, or co-worker.

Dr. Kay Siebler, Professor of English

GEOGRAPHY

From the Furrow to the Frontage Road: The Challenges and Opportunities for Agriculture in the Rural-Urban Fringe

The impact of urban sprawl on agriculture and global food shortages.

Dr. Dawn Drake, Associate Professor of Geography

Geography Topics

Speaker can tailor her remarks for the needs of the audience. She is an economic geographer with research interests in industry location, impacts of emissions legislation (for vehicles) on industry success and the U.S. farm machinery industry. As a broadly trained geographer, she can answer questions about global affairs, climate change and energy.

Dr. Dawn Drake, Associate Professor of Geography

HEALTH AND HEALTHCARE

Advanced Healthcare Directives

This presentation can be tailored toward a group's needs to some extent. Explanation of advanced healthcare directives. These should be drafted by all adults to provide information about wishes concerning medical care and who should make decisions for a person should he/she become incompetent. Information provided is not intended as specific legal advice.

David Tushaus, Professor of Legal Studies

Building Healthy Partnerships: The History of the Healthy Buddy Program

Explanation of a program developed to enhance the healthy behaviors of children attending Title I schools. Explains how university students enhanced their communication with children and learned about resources in the community.

Dr. Evelyn Brooks, Professor of Nursing

Comparative Healthcare

Discussion of communication differences in the healthcare settings between the U.S. and other countries. Focuses on China.

Dr. Mei Zhang, Professor of Communication

Issues of Competency

The elusive nature of competency; its assessment and development are considered.

Dr. Carolyn H. Brose, Associate Professor of Nursing

Making Healthy Choices for High School Students

Addresses making healthy choices, and birth defects related to folic acid, alcohol and tobacco.

Dr. Evelyn Brooks, Professor of Nursing

Moral Reasoning in Healthcare

Healthcare sometimes requires difficult choices, such as removing a loved one from a ventilator. Learn how to think about these issues more clearly so that you can make better decisions. The speaker also discusses how to find and read the large literature on healthcare ethics.

Dr. James M. Okapal, Associate Professor of Philosophy

Nursing Shortage

Description of the nursing and healthcare labor shortage in relation to population demographics and changes in the healthcare industry, both nationally and regionally. Includes strategies for addressing these issues.

Dr. Kathleen O'Connor, Dean of Professional Studies

Standards-Based Practice

The elements of standards-based practice and their relevance to quality and safe patient outcomes are considered.

Dr. Carolyn H. Brose, Associate Professor of Nursing

HIGHER EDUCATION

Today's Students

Snapchat, reality TV, smart phones, Instagram, and Apple watches ... today's students have the ability to connect to the world in more ways than ever before. Yet are they connecting with each other, and to their academics? How do today's students get ahead in the classroom and prepare for life after high school – and will they succeed in college? We'll explore today's world for the next generation – their struggles, their strengths, and how to help them prepare for the future.

Shana L. Warkentine Meyer, Vice President for Student Affairs

University 101

Colleges and universities often have a language of their own. What is the difference between high school, technical colleges, colleges, and universities? Should everyone go to college? What are some of the key components of each, and how do I know education beyond high school is for me?

Shana L. Warkentine Meyer, Vice President for Student Affairs

INTERNET

Cybersafety

Learn to safeguard your financial and personal safety while enjoying all the benefits of the digital world. From banking to dating, learn how to minimize risk online in this empowering presentation.

Angie Brunk, Librarian – Instruction

The Dark Web

You've probably heard of the dark web in passing. Most likely as part of a news story about drugs, prostitution or DEASH (ISIS), but is that all there is to the dark web?

Angie Brunk, Librarian – Instruction

It's An Outrage! But, is it True?

So the local Mexican restaurant serves dog meat and the Starbucks logo is Satanic. Say what! This presentation will arm you with the tools to spot fake news, satire and fear mongering on the web and social media.

Angie Brunk, Librarian – Instruction

Making Digital Memories Last ... Making Memories Last Digitally

What is the best way to save all those digital photos for future generations? How can I preserve my family memories? How can I use digital technology to save old photos? Find out in this fun and informative presentation!

Angie Brunk, Librarian – Instruction

Online Journalism: The Convergence of Print and Broadcast Media

This presentation outlines how technology has changed the field of journalism – how the Internet, in allowing for sound, video and the immediate posting of stories, is becoming more and more like broadcast media.

Dr. Robert Bergland, Professor of Journalism

Who Told You THAT?

This lecture/interactive workshop focuses on how to identify credible sources in news media, social media, and internet postings. We are often bombarded with information that passes as “news” but to be smart consumers and politically engaged citizens, we need to decipher fact from fake ... and even think critically about the facts that are presented truth.

Dr. Kay Siebler, Professor of English

INVESTMENTS

Foreign Direct Investment and Economic Growth: An Empirical Analysis

The world has realized an increasing importance for foreign direct investment (FDI) in the international economy since the early 1980s. The FDI flows to developing countries have also grown dramatically since the early 1990s. In this study, by applying a multiple regression analysis and the annual data for the period of 1969-1999, the impact of FDI on nine developing countries' economic growth were examined and found to be positively and significantly related.

Dr. Reza Hamzaee, Professor of Economics

Investment Analysis

This presentation will cover issues such as investment appraisal, an application of the principles of decision making, and analysis of the effects of risk and uncertainty; and a comprehensive assessment of various investment options through corresponding costs, rates of return, risks, uncertainty, and the relevant probabilities.

Dr. Reza Hamzaee, Professor of Economics

Stock Market Analysis

Topic will cover how the stock market functions, most important determinants of stock prices, risk management and how anyone can use the available useful information.

Dr. Reza Hamzaee, Professor of Economics

LAW

Advanced Healthcare Directives

This presentation can be tailored toward a group's needs to some extent. Explanation of advanced healthcare directives. These should be drafted by all adults to provide information about wishes concerning medical care and who should make decisions for a person should he/she become incompetent. Information provided is not intended as specific legal advice.

David Tushaus, Professor of Legal Studies

LITERATURE

Literature and Science

Discussion of the relationship between the humanities (particularly literature) and the sciences/technology.

Dr. Ian Roberts, Professor of English

Science Fiction and Philosophy

The Matrix, Star Trek, Star Wars, and many other science fiction stories touch on philosophical questions. Explore some topics such as the nature of reality, the meaning of life, and what we really care about through science fiction.

Dr. James M. Okopal, Associate Professor of Philosophy

What Would Harry Do? Harry Potter and Virtue

In the Harry Potter books, the heroes are not perfect. Nevertheless, they exemplify many good virtues. Learn about these virtues and how are they related to business, interpersonal relationships, going to school, etc.

Dr. James M. Okapal, Associate Professor of Philosophy

MARKETING AND SALES

Effective Advertising for Small Business and Nonprofits

The Role of Optimum Advertising in a Competitive Environment

Advertising is only one part of a comprehensive marketing strategy. The role of advertising is very critical in a company's survival and success rate. When the economic environment gets tough, marketers demand some convincing proof of the effectiveness of advertising, and most preferably in numerical terms. This presentation will discuss common problems and challenges of advertising.

Dr. Reza Hamzaee, Professor of Economics

MUSIC

World Music

Learn about the wide variety of music that exists outside of Western pop and classical music. From Genghis Blues to Mama Africa to the Haka experience, the speaker introduces the musical traditions of the wider world. This presentation can be modified to emphasize regions that may interest your group.

Angie Brunk, Librarian – Instruction

PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT

But I'm Not a Witch! How to Argue Like Monty Python

Many of the comedy sketches in the Monty Python movies and television episodes can teach us how to argue – and how not to argue – for our beliefs. By studying these arguments, maybe you can avoid being mistaken for a witch, or at least the person who forgot to turn on the coffee pot.

Dr. James M. Okapal, Associate Professor of Philosophy

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Dr. James M. Okapal, Associate Professor of Philosophy

PSYCHOLOGY AND SOCIOLOGY

Adolescent Reasoning Skills

Contrasts adolescent and adult reasoning and decision-making processes pertaining to risk taking, identity development, and self-concept (positive and negative thinking).

Dr. Teddi Deka, Professor of Psychology

Infant Mental Development

Defines and explains the mental milestones that occur within the first two years of life, and how to encourage/support learning in these years.

Dr. Teddi Deka, Professor of Psychology

SCIENCE, MATH AND TECHNOLOGY

Computer Literacy – Conquering the Generational Digital Divide

This presentation will inform the audience about opportunities to learn how to use a computer at Missouri Western. A student group, Association of Information Technology Professionals, will teach those unfamiliar with computers basic skills, basic file management, Facebook or basic photo editing.

Connie Hecker, Instructor of Computer Science

The Human Genome: Promise and Pandora's Box

What makes people unique? What is the basis of human health or disease? What makes us human? The answers to these and many other questions lie in the interplay between our life experiences and the sum total of all our genes, called the human genome.

Dr. Todd Eckdahl, Professor of Biology

Literature and Science

Discussion of the relationship between the humanities (particularly literature) and the sciences/technology.

Dr. Ian Roberts, Professor of English

Motivation and Cognition

Examines how the brain changes from mid-to-late adulthood in terms of thinking and memory. Offers ways to improve cognition and memory and discusses supplements such as ginkgo biloba.

Dr. Teddi Deka, Professor of Psychology

Synthetic Biology

Synthetic Biology is the application of molecular biology and engineering principles to the design and construction of genetic circuits that program living cells. It has widespread potential in medicine, energy, the environment, and beyond. At Missouri Western, biology and mathematics undergraduate students have been using synthetic biology to build bacterial computers that can tackle important mathematical problems. The research has garnered worldwide media attention, won awards at the iGEM competition, resulted in award-winning professional publications, and attracted funding from the National Science Foundation.

Dr. Todd Eckdahl, Professor of Biology

STUDENT AFFAIRS

Student Affairs

What opportunities are available to students outside the classroom? From skill acquisition to relationship building to cross-cultural experiences, students gain many personal and professional proficiencies beyond academics. Learn what student involvement is, why it is important, and how Student Affairs exists to serve our students!

Shana L. Warkentine Meyer, Vice President for Student Affairs

TEAM BUILDING

Group Dynamics

Research focuses on the dynamics that cause groups to stick together versus fall apart over time, including such features as team structure, leadership, and other factors that influence both social and performance outcomes.

Dr. Kelly Henry, Professor of Psychology

WORK-RELATED ISSUES

Attempt %, Win/Losses, and Game Analyses: Assessment as Game Statistics

Say the word “assessment,” and you’ll most likely hear groans. Yet during sporting events and analyses, assessment terminology is common. Sporting analogies are used to present the need for assessment, how to assess, obstacles to assessment, and how to start.

Shana L. Warkentine Meyer, Vice President for Student Affairs

Business Etiquette

Learn the ins and outs of business etiquette, introductions, conversation, business cards and dining etiquette. Build confidence in yourself and your employees. Increase self-esteem and improve your overall business image.

Career Development Center

From Once Upon a Time to Happily Ever After ... Leadership Lessons from the Silver Screen

Friendships, lessons learned, great adventures, action, comedy, tragedy, and drama. All are potential components of an epic film – or simply moments in the life of an organization’s leader. Movies and TV speak to us all – the comedies, tragedies, realities, inspiring stories, and simple, pure entertainment. These are recurring themes that we all recognize in our everyday lives and in our leadership roles.

Shana L. Warkentine Meyer, Vice President for Student Affairs

Mentoring

“We must open the doors of opportunity. But we must also equip our people to walk through those doors.” - Lyndon B. Johnson There are many benefits of mentoring, to the organization, to the mentor, and to the mentee. Learn about the “whys” of mentoring, issues to consider, and how to develop a mentorship program in your workplace or organization.

Shana L. Warkentine Meyer, Vice President for Student Affairs

So Now You're the Boss ... Effective Supervision

First-time supervisors may have never thought about different types of supervision, styles, and processes a boss might need and use. This presentation reviews the different roles of a supervisor and how to be most effective in your role.

Shana L. Warkentine Meyer, Vice President for Student Affairs

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