

MSQA News

The Newsletter of the MSQA Program at Southern Polytechnic State University
Fall, 2001 <http://www.msqa.edu>

Key Dates

Here are the key dates for Summer Semester

Sept 3	Labor – No Classes
August 24	Spring Graduation Petitions Due in Dept. Office
October 9	Last Day to Withdraw with a W
Nov 21-24	Thanksgiving Day Holiday – No Classes
Nov 4-11	Advanced Registration
Nov 14	Advanced Registration
Dec 5	Last Day of Class
Dec 7-13	Final Exams
Jan 3	Advanced Registration Fee Deadline
January 7	Spring Semester Registration
January 8	School Begins

Faculty/Staff Notes

Larry Aft presented two papers at the 2001 Intersymp Conference in Baden-Baden, Germany during July. He also will be presenting an invited paper at the ABET annual meeting in November. Pat Carden and Larry Aft co-authored an article appearing in *Quality Digest* in the July, 2001 edition.

Graduation Petitions

*In the first week of the semester prior to the semester in which you graduate you **must** file a petition.* (<http://www.msqa.edu/forms.htm>) If you are planning on graduating at the end of spring semester, for example, this petition must be filed by August 24. Please check with Larry Aft regarding the completion of the necessary paperwork prior to this time.

Got a Question

If you have a question or need any more information, please don't hesitate to contact us.

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About the Program

Southern Polytechnic offers the MSQA Degree with concentrations in Quality Systems and Engineering and Technology. The Quality Systems concentration is designed for people with a more general undergraduate background. The Engineering and Technology concentration is for the technically minded individual.

Both degrees require 36 semester hours. Applicants for the engineering and technology concentration must have at least 2 years experience in the field. This concentration also requires the applicant to have had prior courses in statistics and calculus, as well as a laboratory science.

Applicants to the program must also submit a statement of purpose along with the application. Full information is available on the Internet at <http://www.msqa.edu>.

Students admitted to the program are admitted in one of the following categories:

- Full graduate.
- Provisional. This means that the admission status is conditional on the student's performance once enrolled in the program. Students may be asked to take specific undergraduate or graduate courses.

Certificate Program

We have been approved to offer a graduate certificate in quality. The intent of the certificate is to provide a course of study that prepares the student to fully participate in **Six Sigma Quality** efforts that many organizations are undertaking.

In order to enter this program students submit a special application along with undergraduate transcripts. After completing the prescribed on-campus courses participants receive a certificate. Prior to completion of the certificate program students may elect to formally apply for the MSQA program. Completion of the Certificate program does not necessarily mean that the student will be accepted into the graduate program. Additional information, including the curriculum, is available on the web site.

Research Methods Course

Students taking the research methods course, QA 7504 need to be aware of the registration process. The course is offered fall and spring semesters. Students must register for the course along with their other courses and attend a weekend workshop during spring semester. (This spring's is scheduled for March 31 in the SPSU student center.) At the end of spring semester the student is issued a grade of IP. During fall semester the student attends a second weekend workshop. At the end of fall semester, pending successful completion of the project, the student receives his or her grade. It is a four-credit course that you register for only once. Spring semester enrollees finish the following fall.

Grades

At the end of the semester SPSU no longer sends report cards home. Instead, you can access your own grades at the University's web site. Go to <http://www.spsu.edu>, click on Admissions, and follow the instructions from there.

Also be advised that all students must register their email address with the University. That can also be done at the SPSU site.

Course Offerings

Fall semester tentative offerings include:

QA 6602	Internet
QA 6612	Campus
QA 6600	Campus
QA 6611	Internet
QA 6763	Campus

QA 6763 may be used in lieu of QA 6620 to meet graduation requirements.

Project and thesis will be offered for on campus students requiring them.

Check <http://www.spsu.edu> for times and locations.

Introducing

Joining the faculty is Dr. Richard Monroe. He started his academic career right here at SPSU graduating in 1975 with his BS in IE Technology. After a career in industry including Stanadyne Automotive, Eastern Container, Spalding Sports, AET Power Tool, and Southwire, and stops in additional graduate programs resulting in his doctorate from Old Dominion University he joined the faculty of Kennesaw State University here in the Atlanta area.

Richard will be splitting his time between the graduate and the undergraduate programs. This fall he will be teaching QA 6602, Total Quality, on campus.