

MSQA News

The Newsletter of the MSQA Program at Southern Polytechnic State University
Spring 2002 <http://www.msqa.edu>

Key Dates

Here are the key dates for Summer Semester

Jan 21	MLK Day – No Classes
Feb 1	Fall Graduation Petitions Due in Dept. Office
Mar 1	Last Day to Withdraw with a W
Mar 11-16	Spring Break – No Classes
Mar 31-Apr 7	Advanced Registration
Apr 21-26	Advanced Registration
Apr 30	Last Day of Class
May 2-4	Final Exams
May 1	Advanced Registration Fee Deadline

Got a Question

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

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Graduation Petitions

*In the first week of the semester prior to the semester in which you graduate you **must** file a graduation petition.* If you are planning on graduating at the end of fall semester, for example, this petition must be filed by February 1. Please check with Larry Aft regarding the completion of the necessary paperwork prior to this time. (<http://www.msqa.edu/forms.htm>)

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 April 13 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.

Quality Tools

Many of the QA faculty will be participating in Quality Tools 2002. This is a series of refreshers offered by the Greater Atlanta Section of ASQ and held at the Wyndham Hotel in Marietta, Georgia. For information and to see if any of these are for you, check out <http://www.asqatlanta.org>.

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.

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

Tentative summer semester *tentative*
offerings include:

QA 6610	Campus
QA 6615	Campus
QA 6650	Campus
QA 6620	Internet
QA 6630	Internet
QA 6640	Internet

This summer SPSU has instituted a requirement that all graduate courses must have a minimum of 10 students in order to be taught.

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

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

Meet

Many of you must have missed this announcement, so we will repeat it.

Judy Brooks' replacement has joined us. She is [Anna Thornhill](#) and may be contacted at (770) 528-7243. Her email is athornhi@spsu.edu. Please bear with us as we all try to replace the wonderful service that Judy provided.