Welcome back to a brand new year filled with endless possibilities and exciting opportunities! As we kick off 2024, we are thrilled to have each and every one of you back on campus, ready to embark on another semester of academic excellence and personal growth. At KU Fort Myers, we are committed to providing a supportive learning environment, outstanding faculty, and resources that empower you to reach your full potential. This semester, challenge yourself, embrace new opportunities, and make the most of the academic and extracurricular activities available to you. If you ever need assistance or guidance, our dedicated faculty and staff (listed below) are here to support you every step of the way. Here's to a semester filled with growth, achievement, and success. Let's make 2024 an unforgettable year at Keiser University!

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Do you want to have your voice heard as a student representative? Do you have ideas on how campus and student life can be improved? Join the Student Government Association (SGA) today! As a SGA member. you can have an impact on our campus' future. Additionally, it is a great resume builder! See Student Services for information on how to join!



KEISER UNIVERSITY FORT MYERS STAFF

Dean's Office

Dr. Michael Quaintance | MQuaintance@ Dr. Marie Dizaine | MDizaine@ Minnette Smith | MiSmith@

Student Services

Josh Ward | JoWard@ Angel Osorio | AOArreola@

Library

Rob Martindale | RMartindale@ Kaelyn Martin | Kaelyn. Martin@



Bursar

Yelitza Ortiz | YelitzaOrtiz@ Lorena Sarmiento | LSarmiento@



Lisandra Perez Zavas | Lisandra Perez Zavas@ Patricia Reyna | Patricia.Reyna@

Registrar's Office

Ellen McHugh | EMcHugh@ Jane Lane | JanLane@ Ashtyn Martin | Ashtyn.Martin@









Did You Know...

The official color of the year 2024 is **PANTONE**

Notable Movie Releases Coming in 2024

- Night Swim
- Mean Girls Musical
- The Beekeeper
- Argylle
- Lisa Frankenstein
- Madame Web
- Drive-Away Dolls
- Dune: Part Two
- Imaginary
- Kung Fu Panda 4
- Mickey 17
- Ghostbusters: Frozen Empire
- Godzilla x Kong: The New Empire
- Rebel Moon: Part 2
- Challengers
- The Fall Guy
- Horrorscope
- II
- Kingdom of the Planet of the Apes
- Furiosa: A Mad Max Saga
- The Garfield Movie

- Ballerina
- Inside Out 2
- Bad Boys 4
- A Quiet Place 3
- Horizon
- Despicable Me 4
- Twisters
- Deadpool 3
- Borderlands
- Alien: Romulus
- Kraven the Hunter
- Beetlejuice 2
- Saw XI
- Joker: Folie a Deux
- Smile 2
- Wolf Man
- Venom 3
- The Amateur
- Paddington 4
- Gladiator 2
- Wicked: Part One
- The Karate Kid
- Mufasa
- Sonic 3
- Nosferatu

MOST POPULAR NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTIONS 0F 2024

Improve Finances
Improve Mental Health
Lose Weight
Improve Diet

CHINESE ZODIAC



2024 IS THE YEAR OF THE DRAGON





Navigating Academic Crossroads Exploring Alternative Majors in the Face of Academic Obstacles

Embarking on the journey of higher education is an exciting adventure filled with the promise of personal and professional growth. However, it's not uncommon for students to realize that their initially chosen major might not align with their qualifications, timeline, or passion. In such moments of uncertainty, it's crucial to recognize that alternative paths can lead to equally rewarding destinations. Keiser University offers many majors to choose from, and the Fort Myers campus, in particular, would like to highlight three compelling options for students who may be reconsidering their original majors.

Occupational Therapy Assistant: A Holistic Approach to Healing:

If providing personalized, creative therapy related to everyday activities sounds like something you would enjoy, consider exploring the fulfilling role of an Occupational Therapy Assistant (OTA). OTAs work closely with occupational therapists to help individuals regain independence in their daily lives. By focusing on practical activities, OTAs contribute to the well-being of clients facing physical, emotional, or developmental challenges. Reach out to Selena Pemberton for more information: SPemberton@keiseruniversity.edu

Crime Scene Technology and Forensic Investigations: Unraveling Mysteries Behind the Crime:

For those fascinated by the intersection of science and justice, a shift toward Crime Scene Technology and Forensic Investigations might be the perfect fit. This field goes beyond the traditional medical path, allowing students to explore the application of science in solving crimes. From analyzing evidence to reconstructing crime scenes, students in this field play a critical role in the pursuit of justice. It's a dynamic field with a constant demand for skilled professionals, offering a unique blend of science, investigation, and analytical thinking. Contact Stephanie Arbogast for more information: SArbogast@keiseruniversity.edu

Information Technology and Cybersecurity: Safeguarding the Digital Frontier:

In an increasingly digitized world, the demand for skilled professionals in Information Technology (IT) and Cybersecurity is on the rise. If the allure of technology beckons, consider redirecting your academic journey toward this dynamic field. IT professionals and cybersecurity experts play a crucial role in safeguarding sensitive information and ensuring the integrity of digital systems. With constant advancements in technology, this field offers a multitude of opportunities for growth and specialization, making it a viable alternative for students exploring new horizons. Email Dr. Terri Curran for more information: TCurran@keiseruniversity.edu

The beauty of education lies in its ability to evolve and adapt to the unique aspirations of each student. If you find yourself at a crossroads, unsure about your original major, remember that alternative paths can lead to fulfilling and meaningful careers. Whether you're drawn to the healing arts of Occupational Therapy, the investigative world of Crime Scene Technology, or the dynamic realm of Information Technology and Cybersecurity, there's a world of possibilities waiting for you. Embrace the opportunity to explore, discover, and redefine your academic journey – your future self will thank you.



GET TO KNOW ME

STAFF KATELYN RAMIREZ, ADMISSIONS COUNSELOR

My name is Katelyn Ramirez. I earned my Bachelor's Degree in 2021, and I am currently pursuing my Master's Degree in Education Leadership with a projected graduation date of May 2024! I started at Keiser in July 2021 as an Admissions Counselor. I enjoy helping students navigate their career options and reach their goals in a fun and stress-free way! The most regarding part of my job is watching students walk across the stage at graduation.

Fun Fact: I am a first-generation college graduate, and this has motivated me to help other students reach their full potential.



STAFF MINNETTE SMITH, ASSOCIATE DEAN



Meet Dean Minnette Smith. She earned a master's degree in Rhetoric and Composition from the University of South Florida and is currently working on a PhD in Educational Leadership here at Keiser University. She started her career at Keiser in February of 2021. When asked what she enjoyed most about working at Keiser her response was "what I enjoy most about working at KU is the people: students, faculty, staff, administrators and even security guards are all part of Team Keiser FTM. There is a strong sense of camaraderie that creates a student-centered, educational atmosphere that is positive, encouraging, and supportive." Fun fact about Dean Smith is that she has written and recorded her very own music!



Leveling Up

New Year's Resolutions for College Students to Conquer 2024!

Ah, the start of a new year – a clean slate, a fresh beginning, and an opportunity to level up your college experience! As a college student, you've survived late-night study sessions, navigated the complexities of dorm life, and perhaps even mastered the art of instant ramen. Now, it's time to set some resolutions that will not only make you a better student but also add a dash of excitement to your academic journey. Here are some New Year's resolutions tailored just for you, the intrepid college student.

Master the Art of Time Management:

If procrastination has been your trusty sidekick, it's time to break up with it. Invest in a planner, download a snazzy time management app, and embrace the magical world of deadlines. With a bit of discipline, you can turn those last-minute cram sessions into a thing of the past.

Become a Fitness Guru (or at least try):

Say goodbye to the sedentary lifestyle of Netflix marathons and desk-chair bonding. Make it a goal to hit the campus gym, join a fitness class, or take up a sport. Your body and mind will thank you, and you might just discover a newfound love for yoga or kickboxing.

Expand Your Culinary Repertoire:

Bid farewell to the monotony of instant noodles and microwave meals. Challenge yourself to cook at least one new recipe each week. Not only will your taste buds thank you, but you'll also gain valuable life skills. Bonus points if you can successfully host a dinner party without burning anything!

Embrace Networking and Build Connections:

College isn't just about hitting the books; it's also about building relationships. Attend networking events, join clubs, and connect with professors and fellow students. You never know when that random acquaintance could turn into a valuable connection for future opportunities.

Develop a Mindful Study Routine:

Quality over quantity, right? Make a resolution to adopt a mindful approach to studying. Break down your study sessions into focused, productive chunks. Consider trying techniques like the Pomodoro Technique or meditation to boost concentration and retention.

Diversify Your Intellectual Diet:

Challenge yourself to explore subjects outside your major. Attend lectures, join discussion groups, and broaden your intellectual horizons. Who knows, you might discover a hidden passion for astronomy, philosophy, or interpretive dance.

Practice Self-Care Like a Pro:

College life can be stressful, so make self-care a non-negotiable part of your routine. Whether it's taking a bubble bath, indulging in a good book, or simply enjoying a quiet walk, find what helps you relax and recharge.

Budgeting 101:

If your wallet is constantly giving you the side-eye, it's time to become best friends with budgeting. Create a realistic budget, track your expenses, and resist the temptation of impulse purchases. Your future self will thank you for those savvy financial moves.

As you step into the new year, armed with resolutions tailor-made for the college experience, remember that the journey is just as important as the destination. Embrace the challenges, celebrate the victories (big and small), and most importantly, enjoy the adventure that is college life. Here's to a year of growth, discovery, and all the extraordinary moments that make your college years truly unforgettable!



Keiser University Raffle Fundraiser Tickets On Sale: March 4 - March 27

This year's fundraiser will see <u>ALL</u> proceeds donated to the Gulf Coast Humane Society; a no-kill animal shelter that takes in all potential furry family members, young and old, to find their fur-ever homes. Tickets for fantastic prizes will be on sale through Student Services. You do not need to be present at the drawing to win. Or, if you would like to donate to the fundraiser without buying tickets, you can do that, as well! On behalf of Keiser University Fort Myers, the Gulf Coast Humane Society, and the loving animals it houses, we thank you for your generosity!





2024 Keiser University Word Search

В S U В X Α G Α Μ Т Т S N Ζ Χ M Ζ C G S Н D В S C D 0 0 U Ζ U В U W Е D P G G S C S Υ Ζ S S Н 0 D Ζ U S В Е Υ S Ζ 0 0 0 В Т D S G Е G R G S W N Е Е Е В W W M Χ U S Т Q 0

WORD BANK

BREAKROOM - SEAHAWKS - UNIVERSITY - CLASSROOM - WINTER - ADMISSIONS - BOOKSTORE - STUDENTSERVICES - SEMESTER - REGISTRARS - BURSARS - KEISER - STUDENT - BLACKBOARD - PROFESSOR - COMPUTERLAB - LIBRARY - FINANCIALAID



Quick Tips for Saving Money in the New Year!

New Year's Resolutions for College Students to Conquer 2024!

It's the new year and with every new beginning, many of us have 'resolutions' when it comes to our money. Maybe finding a way to save a little more towards the so important Emergency Fund. Possibly putting away some cash for a trip, a new vehicle, or just having a little extra each pay period is your goal. Whatever the situation, building an emergency fund or creating any other savings may seem daunting (and not fun). Add in the current economic environment (though indications are inflation is 'cooling') and it seems even more challenging. Savings usually does not happen very quickly and figuring out the most effective process for each of us can be quite a test.

Conversing with students over the last few years, I have compiled a few of the simpler, applicable tips that STUDENTS have used to reach their own savings goals. As I always tell students, find what works best for you and helps you mitigate some of your spending behaviors to be successful. With a little creativity and discipline, you can successfully reach your savings goals without completely stretching your financial limits. Here are a couple of ideas that I have heard from our students in the last few years:

1. The "No Excuses" Box

This student referenced Dave Ramsey (www.Daveramsey.com) when they explained it to me, but it seemed effective. This individual decided to modify two of their spending habits; going out for coffee and buying lunch when they already had lunch items available. Placed by the front door and next to the car keys was a small box with "No Excuses" written across it. When the student thought of going to buy a cup of coffee \$5 was put in the No Excuses box, and coffee was made at home. The same process was used for thoughts of going out for lunch. Put \$5 in the box, go back to the kitchen and make some lunch. (Of course, having gone grocery shopping helps, so make sure that you budget and have coffee and lunch items on the grocery list!)

2. The Lunch Envelope

The average cost of eating a lunch out is now exceeding the \$10 mark. That could add up to quite a cost if you spent just \$10 daily for lunch out, 5 days a week, 52 weeks a year! Maybe we cut going out to lunch by 2 days a week. The 2 days you don't go out, take a \$10 bill, to represent what you would have spent on lunch out, and place it in an envelope. By physically putting the money in the envelope, you are actively completing your savings behavior. Maintaining this process over the course of one year can lead you to around \$1,000 in your envelope! Well on your way to an emergency fund or whatever savings goal is.

Article Continued on the Next Page...



Quick Tips for Saving Money in the New Year!

New Year's Resolutions for College Students to Conquer 2024!

3. \$5 Bills

One student explained that every \$5 bill they came across was put into an envelope, headed towards a savings account (deposited monthly). This individual used cash more than the debit card so whenever a \$5 bill was handed back as change, they decided that might be a great way to create some "forced" savings for things like emergencies or Christmas.

4. The 52-week Money Challenge (https://www.money-challenge.com/tools/52-week-money-challenge-printable-chart)

Starting with the first week of the year, put \$1 in a savings account, \$2 in week two, \$3 in week three... and so on, until you finish the year depositing \$52 to savings in the last week. The result is nearly \$1380 in savings!! Some students have tried it reverse, starting with \$52 week one, \$51 week 2, \$50 week 3, and so on, finishing the last week of the year with \$1 into savings. You may consider splitting this in half and doing it every 2 weeks; \$26 week two, \$25 week four, \$24 week six, etc. Again, it's what works best for you, but this can be a fun way to challenge yourself to create savings. It might take some time, but most bank accounts will allow you to set this up to occur automatically to make it a little easier on you.

Regardless of the method, a little creativity, some discipline, and planning, can set you up for success with creating savings that have previously eluded you. If it works for you and your behaviors, you will see your savings begin to grow. Just remember it takes time, but the more you do it the small steps become larger ones and you will find yourself closer to reaching your financial goals!

STUDENT LOAN BORROWERS, please register for the free website iontuition.com (portal.iontuition.com) to track your loans; know your servicer, review interest rates and interest accrual, understand repayment plans/options, forgiveness opportunities, as well as deferment, forbearance, and consolidation.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or need additional assistance. I can be reached at (904) 238-3099, or gstam@keiseruniversity.edu; gstam@sec.edu; or gstam@evergladesuniversity.edu.



Did You Know...

Did you know that, as Keiser University Fort Myers students, you are entitled to *FREE* professional headshots?! That's right! *FREE*. These headshots are great to have on-hand for your LinkedIn account, publications, or even when an employer asks you for a picture of yourself to use; yes, that *does* happen. Headshots will be taken on February 21, June 20, and October 17. If you would like a headshot at a different time, all you have to do is contact Josh or Angel in Student Services to set up a date and time for your photoshoot, and then just show up looking your best! The shoots take ten minutes, max, and you will receive digital copies of every picture. Check out some of the sample shots below:













Grinchmas on Campus



December 2023



2024 Term Calendar

01/01/24

01/08/24-04/28/24 01/08/24-02/04/24

01/15/24

01/16/24

02/05/24-03/03/24

02/19/24

02/20/24

03/04/24-03/31/24

04/01/24-04/28/24

03/29/24-04/01/24

04/02/24

04/29/24-05/05/24

05/06/24-08/25/24

05/06/24-06/02/24

05/27/24

05/28/24

06/03/24-06/30/24

07/01/24-07/28/24

07/04/24

07/05/24

07/29/24-08/25/24

08/26/24-09/01/24

09/02/24-12/22/24

09/02/24/09/29/24

09/02/24

09/03/24

09/30/24-10/27/24

10/28/24-11/24/24

11/11/24

11/12/24

11/25/24-12/22/24

11/28/24-12/1/24

12/02/24

12/23/24-01/12/25

New Year's Day

Winter Semester

Term A Classes Begin

Martin Luther King Jr. Day

Return

Term B Classes Begin

President's Day

Return

Term C Classes Begin

Term D Classes Begin

Easter Break

Return

Spring Break

Summer Semester

Term A Classes Begin

Memorial Day

Return

Term B Classes Begin

Term C Classes Begin

Independence Day

Return

Term D Classes Begin

Summer Break

Fall Semester

Term A Classes Begin

Labor Day

Return

Term B Classes Begin

Term C Classes Begin

Veterans Day

Return

Term D Classes Begin

Thanksgiving Break

Return

Holiday





Have you seen the new Keiser University license plate?! *Modern. Sleek. Proud.*

Visit: keiseruniversity.edu/license-plate-form

NOW to order your KU plate.

How can I order my license plate? Through a partnership with the Indian River Tax Collectors (IRTC) Office, KU students and employees, who are also Florida residents, will be able to sign up remotely anywhere in Florida for a the KU license plate: www.keiseruniversity.edu/license-plate-form When accessing the link, the individual will fill out a premade form with their name, zip, phone, and e-mail. An IRTC representative will then call back that individual to acquire payment information over the phone.

What is the cost? For every plate sold, \$25 is donated to a fund to provide scholarships for KU students. A one-time license plate replacement fee of \$28 and \$30 specialty plate fee is all it takes to get your own KU license plate and show your KU pride!

What will the specialty plate fee be used for? All funds benefit the Keiser Mills Foundation and will be used to support scholarships for students. The purpose of the Foundation is to provide scholarships to domestic and international students seeking to broaden and advance their education, community service, and leadership skills through study and work experiences in the United States and internationally.

Can I keep the same plate number or customize it? The FLDOT has stated that individuals may keep the plate number they currently have (if it's 5 characters or less) or create a custom plate number.

Can I keep my handicap license plate? No. The FLDOT has stated that specialty plates cannot have the handicap logo.

What do I need to have in order to get a KU plate?

The owner of the vehicle will need to have a valid driver's license, up to date registration, and a completed "Revenue Collection Division Affidavit."

Will I get a new registration sticker for my plate?

Yes, a new sticker will come with your new KU license plate.

YOU HAVE QUESTIONS???

THESE DEPARTMENTS HAVE YOUR ANSWERS

Questions about...

- \Rightarrow FAFSA
- \Rightarrow Scholarships / Grants
- **⇒ Tax Documents**

FINANCIAL AID

Ouestions about...

- ⇒ Books / Source Material
- ⇒ Writing Studio
- \Rightarrow Blackboard

LEARNING COMMONS

Questions about...

- \Rightarrow Class Schedule
- \Rightarrow College Credits
- ⇒ Official Transcripts

REGISTRAR

Questions about...

- \Rightarrow Grade Issues
- ⇒ Class Concerns
- \Rightarrow Academic Struggle

INSTRUCTOR

Questions about...

- ⇒ Job Search Help
- **⇒** Community Resources
- ⇒ Student Organizations

STUDENT SERVICES

Questions about...

- **⇒ Tuition Payments**
- ⇒ Payment Methods
- ⇒ Current Balance

BURSAR

Questions about...

- ⇒ Changing Majors
- ⇒ Academic Probation
- ⇒ Unresolved Issues

ACADEMIC DEAN

Questions about...

- **⇒ Enrollment Process**
- ⇒ Continuing Education
- \Rightarrow Open Houses

ADMISSIONS



STUDENTS: HAVING PROBLEMS LOGGING INTO BLACKBOARD?

Typically, this means it's time to change your password. Passwords must be changed every 60 days and can only be changed through your student email. Try this:

- 1. Go to keiseruniversity.edu
- 2. Click on Current Students. Then click on Student Email
- 3. Put in your student email address. Click Next.
- 4. Put in your current password. It should prompt you then to change your password. If you are already signed into your email, please sign out and then sign back in.

Please note, your username and password are the same for your email, blackboard, and your student portal. You have to change your password every 60 days and you can only do it via the method described above. Please note that your updated password may take up to an hour to work, but it usually works instantaneously. If you have any questions or still having problems, please come by the Library or call us at 239-277-1336.



Connect with Us!

FACEBOOK



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TWITTER

YOUTUBE



Keiser University INSTAGRAM



@KEISERU

Keiser University

