

# GRADUATE NEWSLETTER

SPRING 2023 EDITION



## A MESSAGE FROM THE OFFICE OF GRADUATE AND CONTINUING EDUCATION

**Greetings from Graduate and Continuing Education!** This newsletter has been revived to serve as a communication tool between our office and graduate students at The College of New Jersey. Whether you're here as a student who has continued into a program right after your undergraduate work, or you've come back to school as an adult learner, we're happy that you're part of the TCNJ graduate community. In this issue you'll find information about important dates in the next few months, information about the new Master of Arts in Educational Studies program, the new Masters of Public Policy programs, and the new Professional UX/UI Writing Certificate. Lastly, we hope you will enjoy reading about some of our outstanding Graduate students. Many thanks to Vanessa Siracusa, GCE graduate assistant, and Michael Ellard, Director of Graduate Studies for their work putting this together.

My role as the Dean of Graduate and Continuing Education comes after serving as TCNJ's Education Dean for 5 ½ years. My professional roles before that included teaching middle school, preparing teachers and leaders at Millersville University in Pennsylvania and Montclair State University, and serving in a variety of leadership roles. Many of TCNJ's graduate programs are in the School of Education, and I'm happy to be focusing on making sure that those programs, as well as the others at the College, are an institutional priority.

There are several new things happening in the GCE world this spring, including launching our new Master of Arts in Educational Studies and Masters of Public Policy programs, creating and sustaining industry and community partnerships, and preparing for our first-ever celebration of Graduate Certificate completers in May. If you're finishing a program, make sure your calendar is marked for the Certificate celebration on May 12th or Commencement for Masters degree completers on May 19th. TCNJ faculty and leaders are looking forward to celebrating with you.

If you have questions about your program, registration, requirements, or graduate life, we're here to help. Your advisor is the best person to answer questions about your specific courses, but we can help point you in the right direction for many other things, including graduate assistantships, registration windows, and graduate policies. E-mail our office at [graduate@tcnj.edu](mailto:graduate@tcnj.edu) for help and support.

*Suzanne S. McCotter*

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# ACADEMIC CALENDAR AND IMPORTANT DATES

## April

4/4– 4/14: Fall 2023 and Winter 2024 registration windows

4/14: Last day to withdraw from the College with WP or WF  
(undergraduate and graduate)

**4/25 VIRTUAL GRADUATE OPEN HOUSE AT 4PM**

## May

5/12: Last day of class for Graduate students

5/18– 5/19: Spring Commencement

5/22: Summer Session 1 Classes Begin

## June

6/12: First 5 Week Session—Summer Session 2

## July

7/4: July 4th observed—No Classes

7/13: Summer Session 2 ends

7/17: 5 Week Summer Session 3 Classes Begin

## August

8/21: Summer Degree Conferral Date

NEW!

# PROFESSIONAL WRITING CERTIFICATE

**Launched in 2023, the Office of Graduate  
and Continuing Education welcomes the  
Professional and UX/UI Writing Certificate!**

**This hybrid program is  
offered by the Department  
of Journalism and  
Professional Writing in the  
School of the Arts and  
Communication.**

**12 credits**

Contact Kim Pearson  
kpearson@tcnj.edu  
for more information

The certificate provides students with  
an **introduction** to foundational  
concepts in the theory, method and  
ethics of digital rhetoric along with  
immersion in the practical application  
of these theories in professional  
communications settings.

**The program consists of FOUR  
courses culminating in a self-  
designed project that is tailored to  
the student's interests, needs and  
backgrounds.**





# MASTER OF ARTS IN EDUCATIONAL STUDIES

Choose **two certificates** from those offered by either TCNJ or the Regional Training Center and add a capstone to create a specialized master's degree.

Addresses the teacher shortages in **bilingual education, ESL, special education, and science** and acknowledges the changing nature of school leadership by including three leadership certificates targeted to teachers.

The program is ideal if you're a **certified, practicing teacher who wants to earn a master's degree** while increasing your mentorship, development, and leadership skills.

Contact Linda Mayger  
maygerl@tcnj.edu  
for more information

# GRADUATE STUDENT SPOTLIGHT



**Samah Mubin**

I'm Samah!

I'm a student in the clinical mental health counseling masters program planning to graduate this May. I've learned so much in my time as a graduate student at TCNJ. It has truly been an enriching experience between classes, internship, my professors, and my peers. I've met some amazing people who I know I'll stay in touch with for years to come. I'm so excited to start my career and I feel confident in my abilities thanks to this program!

I'm Clare!

I'm a grad student in the clinical mental health counseling program, and I am graduating this May. My time in this program has been amazing and I am so grateful for all of the experiences I have had with my classmates and professors. My favorite part of TCNJ is the people that I have met- I know we will all be there to support each other throughout our careers. It is bittersweet to leave this program, but I feel excited and prepared to enter the field! Advice to current grad students: There will be tough days and there will be really great days, it's all about enjoying the ride!

**Clare Brassil**



# GRADUATE STUDENT SPOTLIGHT



**Garrett Miller**

I joined TCNJ's MBA program to learn new skills that I can utilize in my professional life as I complete the program. What excited me about TCNJ's MBA program is that it allows me to continue working full time and travel for business, all while taking classes to enhance my ability to grow professionally. Most of the courses have been relevant enough to my work to where I've been able to start applying the core concepts in real-time. Specifically, the class I'm currently taking on Leading Organizational Change has been very useful. We read real-world cases of organizational leaders driving change, along with the background and strategy to implement the change, and then discuss them in class. It helped me identify potential ways for my organization to change, and how I might help drive growth. Taking this class and applying these concepts has gotten me to start thinking more broadly about what areas there are to improve in any business practice. My advice to aspiring MBA students is to integrate the class insights into your professional life as quickly as possible. By doing this, you get both the classroom experience along with real-world experience that you can discuss with others in class and get their opinions and feedback.