We know that starting classes can be overwhelming. Your attention is pulled in a lot of directions; most of you are working and going to school, and many of you have family responsibilities as well. Getting back into school can be a challenging transition, whether it’s been 3 weeks, 3 months, or 3 years since your last class.

To help you stay focused and get connected, we’ve put together a guide to help you focus on what is important throughout the first half of the semester to set you up for success now and into the future. See below to find a guide to your second week!

Week 2: My Experience

Get Connected! Now that you have finalized your schedule it’s time to start creating connections and building your place here at MassBay. Start developing connections to your peers, staff and faculty all of whom can support you and your learning.

Follow MassBay & Student Engagement on Social Media to see what’s happening around campus:

MassBay:
- Facebook: @MassBayCommunityCollege
- Instagram: MassBayView
- Twitter: @MassBayCommCol
Student Engagement:
- Facebook: @massbaystudentengagement
- Instagram: massbaystudentengagement

Check out the Calendar of Events!
*MassBay has an online event calendar that all students can access through OneLogin!*
- This is the central location for students to get the calendar of events each week.
- This calendar has the most up-to-date information for MassBay student events.
- The event descriptions will have event links included in them so that you can easily access each
- There is an option to subscribe to the calendar so that you get a weekly email with all the events coming up.
- You can also add individual events to your personal calendar or sign-up for reminder emails/texts so that you don’t forget about them!

Click here for a guide to accessing and using the calendar.

**THIS WEEK YOU SHOULD FOCUS ON:**

**Familiarize yourself with your Syllabus**
- Understand what your professors expect out of you for your classes, and look over major deadlines.
- Attend the **Using Your Syllabus for Success** workshop: *The syllabus is your guide to understanding your professor's expectations throughout the semester, but it contains much more than deadlines and contact information. Your roadmap to success in your courses is the syllabus. In this workshop, we will learn how to use the information from the syllabus to achieve the best possible outcomes in all of your classes this semester.*
  
  **Wednesday, September 15, 2021, 12 - 1 pm OR**
  **Thursday, September 16, 2021, 6 – 7 pm**

**Create connections with your faculty members**
- Introduce yourself after class or by email, ask questions, and be engaged! Especially in this virtual world, it’s easy to see who is paying attention, active in class, and who is distracted or falling asleep.
- Faculty often know about resources around campus and can serve as future references.

**Create connections with classmates!**
- Introduce yourself to classmates! Send them an email or message in blackboard. Having a classmate to reach out with questions or just to review assignments with can be a huge help.
• See if others in your classes would be interested in creating study groups — they’re a great way to meet other students and stay motivated.

**Explore our Mentoring Programs:**

**STEM Mentoring Program:** Stem Mentoring Program nurtures STEM students' academic success and support students' pursuit of their academic and career aspirations by facilitating one-on-one mentoring relationships and providing STEM-focused events, programs and opportunities.

- **Info Sessions:** Tuesday, September 14 @ 6pm & Wednesday, September 15 @ 1pm

**Peer to Peer Mentor Program**
Students are linked with an experienced returning student who will serve as a mentor. Peer mentors assist and support students on a variety of academic and non-academic topics and support their fellow students in acclimating to MassBay. Peer mentors work collaboratively to engage students in activities that increase their peers' involvement in a positive college experience. New students will be paired with a peer mentor and learn more soon!

- To be paired with a Peer Mentor: [Apply Here](#)

**Multicultural Mentoring Program (MMP)**
MMP’s goal is to prepare students to lead extraordinary lives by establishing a community for students from all cultures and different backgrounds. Students are paired with mentors who are professionals from regional organizations/companies or MassBay’s staff/faculty in a one-to-one mentoring partnership.

- To apply visit: [https://www.massbay.edu/career/mentor](https://www.massbay.edu/career/mentor)

**Attend Events!**
*A few things that are happening this week:*
- Jumpstart Your Career Workshop
- STEM Mentor Info Sessions
- Syllabi Presentation
- Musical Bingo
- Mindful MassBay
- Academic Achievement Center Open House

**Check out the online Calendar of Events for the event information and links!**
Connect to your Academy

Our Academies are the seven broad areas of study at MassBay. All of our degree and certificate programs are grouped into these seven Academies to create better connections between students and their peers and professors. Think of your Academy as a community of professors and students who share similar interests and goals.

- Attend your Academy Welcome:
  - Business: Wednesday, September 15 from 11 am - 12 pm
  - Education: Thursday, September 16 from 10 am -11 am
  - Legal Studies: Monday, September 20 from 11 am - 12 pm

- Visit the Academies' webpage for more information!

Here is a Sneak Peak at Events This Week:

**Visit the Virtual Events Calendar in OneLogin for more events, event links and additional information!**

**Mindful MassBay (Guided Meditation)**
Monday, September 13, 2021, 3 – 3:30pm
All are welcome to join us for this free 15-minute guided mindfulness meditation for health and wellness. No experience is necessary.

**Jumpstart Your Career**
Tuesday, September 14, 2021, 1 – 2pm
Learn how Career Services can help you make the most out of your MassBay experience.

**JINDO Musical Bingo**
Wednesday, September 15, 2021, 7 – 8pm
IT'S BINGO WITH A BEAT! Jindo is the music bingo party game of skill and luck that’s FUN for everyone! Join the CCSLA and your fellow Massachusetts Community Colleges for a game that mixes name-that-tune with bingo.

**Syllabi Presentation**
Wednesday, September 15, 2021, 7 – 8pm
Thursday, September 16, 2021, 6 – 7pm
The syllabus is your guide to understanding your professor’s expectations throughout the semester, but it contains much more than deadlines and contact information. Your roadmap to success in your courses is the syllabus. In this workshop, we will learn how to use the information from the syllabus to achieve the best possible outcomes in all of your classes this semester.

NEED HELP? HAVE QUESTIONS?

VISIT THE VIRTUAL Q & A CENTER!
Connect virtually with a member of our Support Squad through WebEx.
The MassBay Support Squad is available to answer a wide range of questions!

www.massbay.edu/ask