

Lauren Garrett: Hello, and welcome to the Decipher Podcast. This podcast is hosted by William and Mary staff members who are committed to student success. We all know that this year has been unlike any other and our hope is that this podcast provides a fresh perspective on the challenges our students are facing.

Heather Deere: Navigating college life is no walk in the park and being a William and Mary student in 2020 is no different. Join experts from around campus. If they discuss ways to decipher common college experiences.

Shelly Laurenzo: [00:00:30] Today's episode is a recording of the audio from a webinar Heather and I gave last week, discussing summer sessions for parents and families. Enjoy.

Heather Deere: All right, good evening families. My name is Heather Deere and I'm the Assistant Director of Parent and Family Programs. Thank you so much for joining us for our [00:01:00] third installment of the Spring Parent and Family Webinars Series. Before we get started, thank you for joining our session today on exploring the summer session. We have the associate director of academic advising with us, Shelly Laurenzo. And we're going to talk about some specifics related to registering for summer courses, tuition, a little sprinkle of financial aid information and some of the expanded course offerings that are available during these summer sessions.

Now, before we do get started, [00:01:30] I want to give a caveat to our conversation this evening, and that you may have seen the email I forwarded to families this afternoon about changes to the summer session and whether it would be remote or in person and a preview of fall. We received that information the same time that you did, so there may be some questions that you have that we are not able to answer this evening on our call. We will be able to point you in the right direction in terms of who would be best to answer those questions and where you can [00:02:00] begin to reach out. But I do want to be upfront and honest with you that if we don't have the answer to your question this evening, we will do our best to point you in the right direction.

So we will go ahead and get started. And thank you again, Shelly, for being with me, we are going to start with some specifics about summer session dates. So summer session one is going to start in June 1st and last until July 2nd summer session 2 is July 6th through August 6th and we [00:02:30] have a unique session 3, which is June 1 through August 6th this is a little bit different that it's lasting the duration of the two summer sessions. So that's something that's a little bit different this year that your student may not have experienced before and is something to explore for sure. So those are some specifics about dates.

We learned today that summer course delivery will be fully remote with the exception of a few in-person programs in graduate and professional programs that do [00:03:00] not require on-campus housing. As our on-campus housing facilities will not be open this summer and our dining facilities will not be open

this summer. If you're looking for some more specific information on the reasons why summer housing is not available and dining is not available, I would encourage you to look at the path forward website and also reference that email that I shared with you earlier this afternoon. We can try and answer some questions about that, if possible, at the end of our session.

So when thinking about summer course delivery, [00:03:30] that essentially means that the courses are going to be synchronous or asynchronous remote courses. So either in real time or available for on-demand viewing or participation, and your students have learned a lot over the last couple semesters about what really works well for them and their time management and how they learn and what is best for their academic needs. And so that's something to take into consideration when they're planning for any of the summer coursework that they might be interested in.

[00:04:00] And here's that sprinkle of tuition and financial aid information that I shared. I'm breezing through this because Shelly has some great information about the expanded course offerings. And we will take a lot of your questions at the end. And so thinking about tuition summer 2021 e-bill statements are going to be distributed monthly with the following due dates, June 1st, July 1st and August 1st, 2021. And here's an overview of in-state and out-of-state per credit [00:04:30] hour information. You can also find all of this information on the William and Mary website, and I will link appropriately as we are answering some of these questions. When it comes to financial aid, summer aid eligibility is going to be based on the FAFSA for this current year. And if you or your student has questions about their financial aid eligibility, I would highly, highly recommend that they reach out to their financial aid counselor to walk them through some of those aid options. And you can also email [00:05:00] aid at wm.edu or contact the financial aid office with this phone number. And so that would be the best way to get some answers to your questions about your student's specific financial aid situation and package and that availability for them over the summer.

So with that, I am going to turn it over to Shelly to talk about some of the meat to my potatoes.

Shelly Laurenzo:

Thanks Heather. So one of the things that we're excited about for this summer, some of our expanded summer course offerings, so [00:05:30] counselists.wm.edu is the quickest and easiest way to check our course listings that are available. One of the things that's new for this summer is that we are offering a call 100 and two call 150s in the summer. Typically those are just offered during the fall and spring semesters, but we are offering one section of call 100 and two sections of the call 150 for students to take this summer.

One of the things that's nice about that expanded kind of summer session offering [00:06:00] that Heather was talking about earlier, where we have a course that can take place over both summer session one and the summer

session two dates, is it allows students to spend more time kind of in the course working through it over that longer period of time.

I also like to highlight for students and families, the foreign language course offerings. In particular for some students foreign language can be really challenging to learn. And so by taking it into the summer, it allows them to have that focus on just that one course at a time. [00:06:30] So foreign language courses are also available in the summer for some select languages. And then we also have, I think total ended up being over 15, call 300 offerings available this summer. So we know a lot of families and students are trying to figure out what their students' plans look like based off of how the previous academic year went for them and thinking ahead to the next academic year. So really just want to make sure students and families [00:07:00] are aware that there are a lot of offerings available this summer for students. And to really think about what makes the most sense to take in a summer session. Kind of like Heather was saying earlier at this point, our students have a good feel for what remote looks like, what remote asynchronous versus remote synchronous looks like for them. And so using that data that they've kind of collected over this past calendar year [00:07:30] with adjustments to our instructional modalities, taking that into consideration when determining what types of courses would be best for them to take in the summer, understanding that remote modality.

Kind of some of the nuts and bolts. So registration for summer courses starts on Monday. The other thing that's an important for folks to know, especially for families of our first year students, typically for the fall and spring semester, you probably heard your students talk about needing a pin to register and for [00:08:00] the summer session courses students do not need a pin to register for these classes, but registration does begin March 22nd.

Lauren Garrett: Thank you so much for tuning into this episode of the Decipher Podcast. For our show notes, please visit our website, decipher.blogs.wm.edu. Take care.