

Lifelong Learning

One of the College's core themes is Community Development and the Center for Lifelong Learning is focused on providing community enrichment and professional development to everyone in our region. We offer a wide range of classes in a variety of formats from one-day seminars to full semester classes. As part of the community, we find ways to partner with local organizations and businesses to offer courses to fit people's needs. All of the classes are taught by professionals and community members passionate about their subjects.

Lifelong Learning offers mostly non-credit classes. However, several of these qualify for OPI renewal units for teachers in our area.

094 Courses

Courses assigned a 094 number are non-credit professional and continuing education or community enrichment courses. The non-credit PCE courses are typically offered to meet the needs of professionals in need of skills upgrades and other professional certification needs (e.g. OPI Renewal Units for Montana K-12 Teacher Certification). These courses are transcribed as Continuing Education Units (CEUs) on the student's continuing education transcript and are eligible for Montana OPI Renewal Units. PCE includes the non-credit online courses and certification programs offered through Ed2go and Gatlin. The new community enrichment courses, formerly Nitecap through Great Falls Public Schools, offer affordable, fast, fun, and stress-free lifelong learning opportunities for the greater Great Falls area.

194 Courses

Courses assigned a course number of 194 are considered credit-bearing professional and continuing education courses providing participants with the latest in technology, business, health and human development and other topics meeting current educational trends and demands. They are typically offered to provide condensed coursework to meet the needs of working students, fulfill some of the requirements of Certificates, offer a diversity of electives for Associate of Arts or Associate of Science degree seeking students, and fill certain professional certification needs (e.g. Montana K-12 Teacher Certification). These courses may be eligible for financial aid for students using them as electives in degree and certificate programs where authorized. Students should consult their advisors to identify whether 194 courses will apply toward their program requirements. 194 courses are transcribed on the student's undergraduate transcript.

Semester schedules with both 094 and 194 courses covering a variety of training topics are mailed to those interested. Please call the college at 406.771.4300 or 1.800.446.2698 to request that your name be added to the mailing list, or join our mailing list by logging on to <http://outreach.gfcmsu.edu>

Outcomes: Lifelong Learning

- To engage our community through enrollment in Lifelong Learning classes.

Continuing Education Units (CEUs)

All non-credit courses offered through the Outreach Department are transcribed as Continuing Education Units (CEUs). These are awarded to the student upon successful completion of the course and are recorded on the student's continuing education transcript. CEUs are awarded based on national accreditation guidelines of 1 CEU = 10 contact hours. In addition to CEUs, these courses are also eligible for Office of Public Instruction (OPI)

Renewal Units. These are awarded on a 1 Renewal Unit = 1 contact hour formula and must be requested by the student.

For more information and updated class listings for Lifelong Learning, please visit: gfcmsu.edu/lifelonglearning or call 406.268.3734.