

# THE Scholars ACADEMY at USC UPSTATE

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## FINAL EXAMS BEGIN DEC. 9

Scholars will take their final exams in their college classes beginning Tuesday, December 9. Although the last college class day is December 5, all scholars will report to USC Upstate as usual December 8-18.

Every effort has been made in their schedule to provide small group and whole group exam study sessions that are structured and led by Ms. DeLoach. (See the study session schedule inside this newsletter.) College exams include:

**US History—Grady**  
**Tuesday, December 9**  
 8:30 a.m.—11:30 a.m.  
 Room 258A Library

**Biology 101—Bannan**  
**Wednesday, December 10**  
 11:30 a.m.—2:30 p.m.\*  
 Room 319 Smith  
 Sophomores only.

\*Sophomores will need to be picked up between 2:30 —4:00 by parent/guardian at the Library building. Ms. DeLoach will supervise the students in a precalculus study session in 258 B Library after their biology exam. Absence from any class at the home school on this day will be excused. Freshmen will be picked up by bus at 12:30 as usual on this day.

**Precalculus 126—Woodard**  
**Friday, December 12**  
 8:30 a.m.—11:30 a.m.  
 Room 258 A Library

**Precalculus 127—Saylor**  
**Wednesday, December 10**  
 8:30 a.m.—11:00 a.m.  
 Room 242 Hodge

Also, scholars will take final exams in their advanced high school classes at USC Upstate

per the following schedule:

**English II Honors—DeLoach**  
**Tuesday, December 16**  
 10 a.m.—12 p.m. Part I  
 Room 258 B Library

**Wednesday, December 17**  
 10 a.m.—12 p.m. Part II  
 Room 258 A Library

**English III Honors—DeLoach**  
**Wednesday, December 17**  
 8:30 a.m.—12:00 p.m.  
 Room 258 B Library

**Freshmen Seminar—DeLoach**  
**Thursday, December 18**  
 Final Exam Project Due.

**Algebra II Honors—Grant**  
**Tuesday, January 6**  
 8:30 a.m.—10:30 a.m.  
 Room 258A Library

**Geometry Honors—Grant**  
**Tuesday, January 6**  
 8:30 a.m.—10:30 a.m.  
 Room 258A Library

- **December 2**  
Mentoring Finale
- **December 9**  
College final exams begin.
- **December 15**  
8th grade student/parent meeting re: Application for 2009-2010
- **December 18**  
Academy Holiday Activity sponsored by PTSO
- **January 5**  
Report to USC Upstate
- **January 12**  
Second semester college classes begin.  
8th grade student/parent meeting re: Application for 2009-2010
- **January 16**  
Teacher Workday; Report to college classes at USC Upstate.
- **January 19**  
MLK Holiday—No classes at USC Upstate or home school.



Thursday, December 18,  
 is the last day at USC Upstate.  
 Scholars report to home school on  
 Friday, December 19.  
 See school counselor for that day's schedule.

## VOLUNTARY EXIT POLICY REVISITED

### *APPLIES EACH SEMESTER AFTER COLLEGE COURSES BEGIN*

In keeping with the mission of the Scholars Academy to attract and graduate students, it is understood that students who accept the invitation to participate in the Academy will persist in its course of study to graduation. Students who do not maintain adequate academic standing will be placed on probation or will be dismissed per the relevant policy. Students who maintain good academic standing are expected to graduate from the program.

At the end of each school year, students (who choose to continue in the program) and

their parents must sign a contract confirming their commitment to continue in the program for the following year which includes fall and spring semesters.

Students who choose to exit the Scholars Academy *after the start of any academic semester and initial meeting of college classes* will be held financially liable to reimburse the expenses incurred in providing the student's seat in college courses for that semester. The cost is currently \$198 per course, and the total will be reimbursed to USC Upstate for credit to the Scholars Academy account.

Any request for a waiver to this policy will be reviewed by the Scholars Academy Executive Board. Appeals may be initiated by contacting Dr. Deryle Hope, University Liaison for The Scholars Academy, at 864-503-5769 at USC Upstate.

*This revised policy is effective immediately for Cohorts 1 and 2 as well as future Cohorts. This policy reflects revision of Parts A and B of the Scholars Academy Application signed by the parent and student prior to being accepted into the program.*

### Lunch Changes in December

The Sub Connection and Mochapelli's will be closed beginning December 11. The University Cafeteria will be closed beginning December 15. The Bookstore will have moved to the new building and will, therefore, be unavailable for purchase of snacks and drinks. Students are encouraged to bring their lunch December 15-18 since they will continue to have a lunch break from 12-12:30 p.m. before departing for their home schools.



## INCLEMENT WEATHER POLICY REMINDERS

If any Spartanburg County high school or ninth grade school (in Districts 1, 2, 3, 5, 6) or McCracken Junior High School in District 7 closes due to inclement weather, the Scholars Academy will close as well.

If any of the above-

named schools is delayed opening due to inclement weather, students will report to the Scholars Academy late per their school's schedule.

If the University closes due to inclement weather, the Scholars Academy will be

closed as well.

In case of inclement weather, please check local radio and television news channels for school closings or delays. You may also contact the Director, Melissa DeLoach, at 978-2354.

## APPLICATIONS FOR COHORT 3 AVAILABLE

Applications are now being accepted for Cohort 3 of the Scholars Academy. Applicants must be current 8th grade students attending a Spartanburg County public school.

Applications may be obtained from the program website at [www.uscupstate.edu/scholars](http://www.uscupstate.edu/scholars) or from the school

guidance counselor.

In addition, two informational sessions for interested 8th grade students and their parents are scheduled for Monday, December 15, and Monday, January 12, from 7-9 p.m. in the Campus Life Center Ballroom at USC Upstate. Applications and other materials for the program will be available at

these sessions. Interested applicants are encouraged to attend one session. Current scholars and parent representatives will be available during both meetings to answer questions and provide details of their experience in the program.

Approximately 27 students will be selected to enter the program in the Fall of 2009.

## EXAM STUDY SESSIONS SCHEDULED

The following study sessions have been scheduled for the Scholars as they prepare for their final exams in their college classes:

### US History Exam Study Sessions:

Friday, December 5  
8:30–9:00 a.m. & 10-11:00 a.m.

Monday, December 8  
8:30-10:00 a.m. Small group 1  
10-11:00 a.m. Small group 2  
11-12:00 p.m. Whole group

### Biology 101 Exam Study Sessions:

Monday, December 8  
8:30-11:00 a.m. Small groups

Tuesday, December 9  
8:30–11:30 a.m.  
Small groups

Wednesday, December 10  
8:30-11:00 a.m.  
Whole group



### Precalculus 126 Exam Study Sessions

Monday, December 1  
Wednesday, December 3  
Friday, December 5  
8:30–10:00 a.m. whole group

Wednesday, December 10  
2:30–4:00 p.m.  
Room 258B small group

Thursday, December 11  
8:30–12:00 p.m. whole group

## MENTORING FINALE TUESDAY, DECEMBER 2

All Scholars will participate in the Mentoring Finale on Tuesday, December 2, from 8:30 a.m.—11:00 a.m. in the Campus Life Center Ballroom.

Mentoring trainer Wanda Fowler will conduct several team building activities for all Scholars in Cohorts 1 and 2. This finale serves as the culmination of the men-

toring efforts of the sophomore scholars who have served as mentors for the freshmen scholars this semester. Sophomores will turn in a mentoring portfolio on this day. The portfolio is a compilation of the work he/she has accomplished with his/her mentee, a Scholars Academy freshman. Subsequently, the freshmen have recorded Mentoring Minutes as docu-

mentation of what they have learned from their mentors this semester. Mentoring Minutes will be turned in on this day as well.

The Mentoring Finale will conclude with a brunch served at 10 a.m. for all scholars and their professors.

Sophomores will continue their mentoring second semester as part of their leadership and community service

**A PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN SPARTANBURG  
COUNTY SCHOOLS & USC UPSTATE**

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**January 9, 2009  
First Semester  
Report Cards Issued**

## **SPRING SCHEDULE**

### **Sophomores**

World History \* MWF

Precalculus 127\* MWF

or Calculus 141\* MTWThF

AP English Language MTWThF

*(AP Language Exam is May 14 for college  
credit!)*

### **Freshmen**

English II Honors MWF & online

Geometry MTWThF

or Precalculus 126\* MWF

Introduction to Physical Science 101

+ Lab\* MWF

US History 106\* TTh

Freshman Seminar TTh

\* Dual Credit Course = 3-4 college credits  
+ 1 high school graduation unit

Scholars will be given a  
daily schedule for second  
semester in December.

  
**The Scholars Academy**

## **PTSO Update**

The PTSO Executive Board is comprised of President – Lori Walter, V. President – Fred DeAngelis, Secretary – Paula Brooks, parents – Natalie Rossi and Brian Smith, student representatives - Hilary Martin and Will Hope, and Ms. DeLoach. The Executive Board had its first meeting November 6, 2008. The results of that meeting were to begin the creating of by-laws, to review the exit policy, and to discuss the purpose of the Scholars Academy PTSO.

One of the purposes that came to the forefront of the conversation was that the PTSO should sponsor student activities. The first event will be December 18, 2008. Since the PTSO has no money, we are asking the students in Cohort 1 to bring a 2-liter soft drink and the students in Cohort 2 to bring a snack large enough to serve 6. More information on the event will be sent home with the students separately.

Another purpose discussed was the need of the parents to serve as a conduit of information back to the students' home schools. As parents, we are in the best position to advocate for our students to make sure they are not overlooked for honors, honor societies and extra curricular opportunities.

There will be an Open House in January with a PTSO meeting. Please watch for information to come home that will announce the date and time. In the meantime, if you have any questions or ideas, please contact me at [loriwalter@windstream.net](mailto:loriwalter@windstream.net).

Lori Walter

PTSO President 2008-2009

The Scholars Academy

**New IDs Must Be Made by December 16!**  
All Scholars Academy students must have a new university ID card made in the bookstore by December 16. The University is transferring to a new ID card system which will afford students greater use of their cards. These new cards are free.