

Thoughts from Summer School



**Marisol Rivera,
Student, UNCP Campus:
Sandhills Community College**

Reason for Attending:
Earn Credits Towards Bachelor's
Degree

"I have taken four classes at SCC/UNCP during Summer School—two in 2009 and two in 2010. Summer School is pretty intense —because the classes are condensed in a lot less time, but I have to say I learned as much in those 5-week sessions as I did taking a full semester course.....

My first class at SCC—a Biology course—in the Summer of 2009 was intense and I was worried that I couldn't grasp all the information required in so short a time. But my professor—Professor McDonald—said to me 'You do not give yourself enough credit and you should feel confident about what you are learning and doing.' That was two years ago, and I always say that I'm a work-in-progress, but his teaching prepared me for university level courses and his encouragement was exactly what I needed to be able to expect more of myself."

UNCP Summer School is a place where you can advance your career, learn for the sake of learning, gain a needed certification or simply get back into the swing of organized learning, to decide your options. And UNCP Summer School happens at several locations, but the education is always the same, because UNCP professors teach the classes.

But that's just what we in the Summer School Office already know. Better to hear it from real students and professors.



Dr. Veronica Hardy, UNCP Professor, Assistant Professor in the Department of Social Work

"I've taught courses via interactive video for two semesters from the UNCP campus to Sandhills CC. The courses have included Social Science Research, Human Behavior and Social Environment and African American Populations. The students at SCC have been very participatory in their learning experience. I've observed that the attentiveness level in the 'virtual classroom' seems to be at higher level because they are being exposed to different views and methods of interaction such as the television screen, picture-in-picture, cameras and microphones. This way of teaching and learning seems to encourage different types of communication styles.

I have collected data for a study focusing on exploring bachelor's level social work students' perceptions of interactive video courses and, overall it works for students, allowing them to get a certain type of degree even if they live a distance from campus."