



FAMILY SCIENCE & HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

Department Newsletter

JANUARY 2025

2025 Academic Calendar Offers Three Full Terms

With the start of the Spring 2025 semester on January 17, Montclair State University launches its new three-term academic calendar to increase flexible learning options and ensure every student has an optimal path to completing a degree. The new model enhances the student experience by creating year-round access to education with a full 14-week term in the summer, in addition to the regular spring and fall terms.

Highlights of the new format include:

- Semesters are now called *terms*.
- Full terms are 14 weeks instead of 15.
- Partial terms are 7 weeks.
- Class sessions have increased in length based on weekly frequency to account for fewer weeks in the term.
- Common Hour blocks are scheduled on Mondays and Wednesdays from 2:00-3:30.
- The calendar includes a fall break in October, spring break in March, and end-of-summer break in August.
- Full-term courses can be scheduled three days a week to increase student engagement.
- Terms do not include final exam periods. ■

Fighting Back Against Human Trafficking

Despite the nearly worldwide adoption of international and domestic norms to address and prevent human trafficking, traffickers continue to exploit people in the United States and around the world. The number of people currently being trafficked or living in modern-day slavery is estimated at 49.6 million, including more than 1 million in the U.S.

National Human Trafficking Hotline
1-888-373-7888 Text: 233733

In recognition of Human Trafficking Awareness Month in January, the U.S. Department of State offers numerous actions anyone can take to help prevent trafficking:

1. Learn the [indicators of human trafficking](#) and take Human Trafficking Awareness training.
2. If you believe someone may be a victim of human trafficking, call the 24-hour [National Human Trafficking](#)

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Department Chair's Corner

Welcome to 2025 and a happy new year to all! I hope the new year brings you peace, warmth, and wisdom and a renewed sense of hope and wonder as we celebrate the tide of new beginnings.

As I write this, it's striking to me how beginnings signify that there was an end to something. And I suppose that is true, we are starting from where we left off. In FSHD, we ended 2024 with a fun and festive gathering with our faculty, staff, and student workers (see picture on page 3). We completed the Fall '24 semester - many of us triumphantly, some of us (students and faculty alike) hobbled to the finish line, but we all got there nevertheless.



Dr. Lyndal Khaw

But some things never end, like the good work that we do here in FSHD, or our commitment and collective resolve to help families and communities, and make a difference. As we continue to strive for a better and more socially just world, we also recognize that the struggle doesn't end. The need for us to come together and work

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DATES TO REMEMBER

January 7

Deadline for Spring 2025 Internship approval

January 17

Spring 2025 term begins on a Monday schedule

January 20

MLK Jr. Day—no classes

February 1

Deadline to [apply](#) for Teacher Education Program for Fall 2025

Human Trafficking

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[Hotline](#) at 1-888-373-7888 or report an emergency by calling 911. Trafficking victims, regardless of U.S. citizenship, are eligible for services and immigration assistance.

3. Become a conscientious and informed consumer with help from [ResponsibleSourcingTool.org](#), or check out the Department of Labor's [List of Goods Produced by Child Labor or Forced Labor](#). Encourage companies to prevent human trafficking in their supply chains.
4. Meet with and/or write to [your local, state, and federal elected officials](#) to express concern about human trafficking and ask what they are doing to address it.
5. Volunteer and support anti-trafficking [efforts in your community](#). Organize a fundraiser and donate the proceeds to [an anti-trafficking organization](#).
6. Host community awareness events with anti-trafficking leaders. Watch and discuss documentaries about human trafficking. Contact your local library for assistance identifying an appropriate book and ask them to host an event.
7. Encourage your local schools or school district to include human trafficking in their curricula and to [develop protocols](#) for identifying and reporting a suspected case of human trafficking or responding to a potential victim.
8. Use social media and the hashtags #endtrafficking and #freedomfirst to raise awareness.
9. Reach out at your workplace to management or the Human Resources team to urge [implementation of trauma-informed business practices](#). Take steps to detect and prevent trafficking in your supply chains by consulting the Responsible Sourcing Tool and [Comply Chain](#).
10. Become a mentor to someone in need. Traffickers often target people who are going through a difficult time or who lack strong support systems.
11. [Learn how human traffickers target youth](#) and who you can turn to for help in potentially dangerous situations. Host conversations with parent teacher associations, police, schools, and the public about safeguarding children in the community.
12. [Learn how to recognize traffickers' recruitment tactics](#), how to safely navigate out of a suspicious or uncomfortable situations, and how to reach out for help at any time.
13. Provide jobs, internships, skills training, and other opportunities to trafficking survivors.

14. [Take action](#) on your college campus. Here at Montclair, [The Global Center on Human Trafficking](#) focuses on developing innovative solutions to human trafficking, and has a history of supporting social justice and human rights issues affecting communities around the world. [Attend their free Legislative Breakfast](#) on February 21 (see ad on this page).
15. Health Care Providers: [Take training](#) to learn indicators of human trafficking. Offer low-cost or free services to victims, and tap into resources from the Department of Health and Human Services outlined on their website.
16. Journalists: Learn how to effectively report stories on human trafficking to guide the public conversation.
17. Attorneys: Offer legal services to human trafficking victims, including support for those seeking benefits or special immigration status. [Resources](#) are available for attorneys representing victims. ■



Global Center on Human Trafficking

3rd Annual Legislative Breakfast:
Addressing The Mental Health Response to Human Trafficking in Law, Policy, and Practice



Join the Global Center on Human Trafficking along with experts, lawmakers, policymakers, and professionals with lived experience as we examine New Jersey's response to the mental health crisis faced by survivors of human trafficking upon exiting their situations.

The discussion will address critical challenges, including the lack of training and education on human trafficking, the shortage of both short-term and long-term mental health services, and the limited understanding of the vital importance of mental health services. These services are crucial for victims and survivors to ensure their long-term success in building new lives after trafficking.

Questions, comments, or concerns? Email Christabelle robinsonchr@montclair.edu

3rd Annual Smith/Wellstone Awardees for Outstanding Efforts to Address Human Trafficking

To Be Announced

Hosted by the **Global Center on Human Trafficking at Montclair State University** in partnership with:



Center for Entrepreneurship and Innovation
Justice Studies
Pre-Law Program
Political Science and Law Department
Social Work and Child Advocacy Department



NJ COALITION AGAINST HUMAN TRAFFICKING



Volunteer Lawyers for Justice
Taking Cases. Changing Lives.



LSNJ
Just Justice



Covenant House
New Jersey

Event Details:

Friday, February 21st, 2025
 8:30 am-12:30 pm
 1 Normal Avenue
 University Hall, 7th Floor
 Montclair, NJ 07043

[Click here to register or scan the QR code below.](#)



Mentoring Strengthens Communities

National Mentoring Month is an annual campaign celebrated in January to amplify, encourage, and strengthen mentorship for young people. While raising awareness about the power and impact of mentoring, this campaign recognizes the valuable contributions of mentors, and encourages more individuals to become mentors.

“When our children have strong, positive role models... they grow up to be good neighbors and good fellow citizens.”

- Barack Obama

Mentorship is a cornerstone of community and a relationship toward brighter futures. Businesses, schools and everyone in between can work together to create more mentor-

ship opportunities that foster passion and positivity for the next generation.

For over twenty years, national leaders have promoted mentoring in conjunction with:

- local communities to organize events in their neighborhood.
- local media outlets and officials to spread awareness.
- organizations to encourage their people to find and participate in mentorship opportunities.

President Barack Obama proclaimed National Mentoring Month during his tenure by saying, “We honor all those who continuously strive to provide young people with the resources and support they need and deserve, and we commit to building a society in which all mentors and mentees can thrive in mutual learning relationships...When our children have strong, positive role models to look up to, they grow up to be good neighbors and good fellow citizens.” ■

Source: mentoring.org

Department Chair's Corner *(Continued from page 1)*



with each other to create opportunities for everyone does not end. In fact, it has only just begun.

I wish you a pleasant and productive Spring semester! ■

Career & Internship Insights

Last Call for Spring Internships

Students in the Family Services concentration who are registered for their Spring 2025 internship, FSHD 409, must have their digital paperwork fully approved by the site supervisor and Career & Internship Services by **Tuesday, January 7**. Students who need assistance must contact Career & Internship Advisor Colleen Casenta immediately at casentac@montclair.edu. ■

Financial Aid Form is Live

The 2025-26 [Free Application for Federal Student Aid \(FAFSA\)](#) is now available online. Don't delay in completing the form. Montclair's priority deadline is March 1, 2025. Questions? Visit the [FAFSA website](#). ■

Our Achievements

Dr. Helal Mohiuddin presented a paper titled *“Indoctrinated Developmentalism vis-à-vis Community-Based Enterprises: Toward a Bottom-Up Social-Ecological Model”* at the 9th International Economics Conference in India.



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Dr. Lyndal Khaw, Chair

Lisa Mills, Newsletter Editor



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@ Family Science & Human Development at Montclair State University



From Trauma to Healing: Healing-Centered Approaches to Trauma in Families and Communities

This 12-week fully online and interactive course offers a comprehensive exploration of healing-centered approaches to addressing trauma, in families and communities, within a context of social justice. Moving beyond traditional trauma-informed care, the curriculum emphasizes a practice-shift towards recognizing and nurturing the inherent strength and resilience of individuals, families, and communities affected by trauma.

Course Term & Fee

February 17 – May 11, 2025 (12 Weeks)
\$550

Course Highlights:

- Gain a deep understanding of Positive and Adverse Childhood Experiences (PACEs) science; examine how early experiences shape brain development, and explore long-term outcomes of trauma across generations
- Learn about pioneering research on neurobiological responses to trauma with practical applications tailored for family and community contexts
- Be guided by a trauma-certified, licensed mental health professional and faculty in the department of Family Science & Human Development
- Special attention is given to cultural humility, intersectionality, and the impact of structural racism on trauma experiences
- Develop culturally responsive skills to support healing within family systems and community structures
- Earn CEUs and a micro-credential certificate from the Department of Children and Families' Office of Resilience and Montclair State University



NEW JERSEY
DEPARTMENT OF

**CHILDREN
& FAMILIES**

OFFICE OF RESILIENCE

[Click here to register](#)
or scan the QR code below



Contact Information:

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Human Development**
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