

Getting ahead: Why do students take Summer Term courses?

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By John Miller

Many students have spent their summer taking classes at SUNY Broome. I went out and spoke to several of these students to find out a bit more about their experiences.

Caroline Bracken has been taking both online and on campus classes. In order to graduate on time, she took a fitness class in the Student Center and writing and astronomy classes online. Caroline recommended the shorter session and “heavier workload” to any student who wants to get ahead or catch up to their peers.

John Osjecki has been taking a calculus class on campus for the last month. With a few more weeks to go, John has found summer classes to be an excellent way to get ahead. He said that the faster pace of the class has taught him more than he would have learned in a regular semester.

Mark Dedek said something similar: “They pack the work in and it makes it much more challenging, but it’s worth it.” Dedek is taking a calculus and a marketing class. He’ll use these credits to get ahead in the [Excelsior College partnership](#), which allows students to complete their bachelor’s degrees by taking courses [at SUNY Broome and online](#).

Jessie Smeltzer is taking a math class to catch up in her program. She says it will give her an opportunity to take different classes this coming fall.

Based on my personal experience, I completely agree with all of these students. I took a math class on campus and a spreadsheets class online last summer. The faster pace and more intense workload allowed me to catch up in my recently changed major.

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