Greetings Parents & Families,

I hope you are well and that your student is enjoying their time at the College of Charleston. Please read the following information about midterm grades, the requirement review process, and spring course registration. We hope this information is helpful to both you and your student.

We encourage you to have a discussion with your student about their academic progress and if they expect to meet the Charleston Bridge program requirements. This is an important conversation to have if your student anticipates attending another institution in the spring. Ask your student to log in to TTC Express to show you their midterm grades and discuss what they are doing to maintain or improve these grades. When discussing any struggles your student might be going through, this article might help you and your student overcome homesickness.

Take the time to discuss the cost of attending college, the importance of managing money, and avoiding debt.

If we can be of any assistance to you or your student, please reach out to us.

Best wishes,

Melinda (Mindy) Miley | Asst. Vice President, First Year and Bridge Student Services
New Student Programs | COLLEGE of CHARLESTON
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Midterm Grades

Midterm grades will post on **Wednesday, October 27**. The midterm point in a semester is a time when a student should reflect on their academic performance and determine if any action is needed to improve grades. Midterm grades are not included on the official academic transcript; however, these are important because midterm grades are a good indicator of student progress in each class.

The last day to withdraw from a course with a grade of “W” is **December 6**. If midterm grades are poor, students will need to decide about withdrawing from a course. The “W” is indicated on the academic transcript, but it does not affect the student’s cumulative GPA. Students must earn at least 12 credit hours to meet program requirements. Be aware that withdrawing from multiple courses each semester is not recommended — this can affect financial aid, including scholarships, and if done continuously, it can result in a long and expensive road to graduation.

If your student is doing well at midterm be sure to tell them how proud you are and maybe reward them with a little something special!

How to View Midterm Grades

Midterm grades post by 12 noon on **October 27**. They can be viewed in the TTC Express section of the [my.tridenttech.edu](http://my.tridenttech.edu) student portal. To access grades, login to your [my.tridenttech.edu](http://my.tridenttech.edu) > TTC Express for Credit Students > Academic Profile > Grades > 2021FA (submit). Grades can also be accessed [here](http://my.tridenttech.edu).

How to Help Your Student at Midterms

- **Do not panic (this makes your student panic more)**. Your support is critical! How can this wake-up call be a teachable moment? When your student calls in a crisis, ask these three questions:
  - Do you want me to get involved? Or,
  - Do you want me to offer advice? Or,
  - Do you want me to listen? You may find they just want you to listen to them vent for a while!
- **Students often do not want to ask for help**. Our students are among the best and brightest but may see it as failing if they ask for help or use the resources on campus. They may think that they never needed help before, so they should not need any help in college. Asking for help does not indicate weakness — it indicates a level of maturity that students are using all the resources available to achieve their academic goals. Encourage your student to see their faculty member and to use the resources on campus.
- **Students may think they can pass the class even if they continue to do poorly**. Some keep plugging along thinking they can pull their grade up when it is best to let it go and try again another semester. If it is not possible to pass a class, your student may want to consider withdrawing from a course. Students often express that they are concerned about disappointing their parents if they do this and may feel withdrawing indicates failure. However, in some cases this is a better alternative than earning a grade that will affect their cumulative grade point average (GPA).
- **Students may be in denial and figure it will all work out somehow**. Students who know they are doing poorly often do not want to admit it to themselves, others, and most especially to their parents. Ask your student questions that require more than a yes or no answer about their academic progress.
- **Students think if they go to class and participate they will receive (and deserve) a passing grade**. Students are not given passing grades for simply attending class — they EARN the grades they receive based on the work they do.
What Your Student Can Do

- **Review midterm grades.** If midterm grades do not meet their expectations, your student should take action!

- **Review the course syllabus for future assignments and tests to estimate what grades could be earned for the rest of the semester.** Based on this estimate, determine if a passing final grade in the class is realistically possible. Students can use the Semester/Cumulative GPA Calculator available [here](#) to predict a GPA based on the final grade they expect to earn in their classes.

- **Talk with faculty about midterm grades to see if it is possible to still earn the passing grade.** Faculty members have office hours, so students should take advantage of this time to meet and discuss their progress. If a midterm grade is not posted for a course or a student is unsure of where they stand, schedule an appointment to meet with the professor for feedback.

- **Reflect on their academic performance and determine what can be done differently.** Has enough time really been spent actively studying? Where do they study? When do they study? How do they study? How do they manage their time? Students need to be actively engaged in their study and it will take more than just rewriting notes or studying the night before an exam. Scheduling a study skills appointment may help students approach to study in a different and more efficient way. It is recommended that students consistently use the services provided by the Center for Student Learning.

Your student’s faculty member can provide your student with valuable guidance about midterm grades and academic progress. Encourage your student to use the resources available to them.

Withdrawing From a Class

The last day to withdraw from a fall class is by 11:59 p.m. **December 6.** To withdraw from a class, students should email [Registration@cofc.edu](mailto:Registration@cofc.edu) using their CofC email account. In the SUBJECT of the student’s email include the text “Charleston Bridge Course Withdrawal Request.” In the student’s email text, include the name of the course(s) they wish to drop from their fall schedule if applicable. It is not required that students add a course if they are enrolled in at least 12 credit hours which is needed to meet Charleston Bridge program requirements. The student’s request will be processed by the College of Charleston and shared with Trident Technical College. Once processed, they will see the changes in the Trident Technical College portal. They will also receive an email confirmation sent to their TTC email from Trident Technical College.

The Charleston Bridge program requirements are:

- Earn a minimum of 12 transferable credit hours in the fall semester.
- Earn at least a 2.6 cumulative grade point average (GPA) for the fall semester.
- Successfully complete the Charleston Bridge Student Success Seminar (CBSSS). Successful completion includes seminar attendance, submitting seminar assignments online using OAKS, and meeting as requested with the seminar instructor or Charleston Bridge peer mentor. Students must earn a minimum of 70% of the available seminar points to meet this requirement.
- Use the College of Charleston Center for Student Learning (CSL) services at least 2 times during the fall semester.
Social Media

Please follow our various social media accounts for updates and events throughout the semester.

@cofcbridge
@CofCChasBridge
@cofccharlestonbridge

Contacts

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October 1: FAFSA opens for the 2022-2023 academic year.

October 18-19: Fall Break. No Classes.

October 20: Classes resume.

October 27: Full semester midterm grades due by 12 noon. Students may view midterm grades in TTC Express after noon.

November 24-28: Thanksgiving holiday. No classes. Campus closed.

December 6: Last day of fall classes and last day for students to withdraw with an indicator of “W” on fall semester classes.

December 7-9: Final exams period.

December 10: Final grades due at 12 noon. Students may view final grades in TTC Express after noon.