
Fitchburg State University Today

Welcome Back



The fall semester has begun! The campus welcomed students, faculty and staff for in-person learning last week. [Freddy the Falcon](#) made the rounds of campus to greet students on the first day of classes.

Today at 3:30 p.m., the campus community is invited to gather for **Rock the Block** on the quad and Highland Avenue, featuring student clubs and organizations and representatives from campus offices.

Students are encouraged to attend to learn about all the different ways they can get involved on campus.

[Read about](#) some of the new programs and initiatives launching this academic year.

9/11 Remembrance this Friday

The campus will hold a remembrance event in recognition of the 20th anniversary of the 9/11 terror attacks at 8:30 a.m. Friday on the main quad. The event will be held rain or shine.

The program will include remarks, a moment of silence, a butterfly release, and the reading by members of the Sigma Pi fraternity of the names of those lost on Sept. 11, 2001.



Latinx/a/o Heritage Month to be observed Sept. 15-Oct. 15

LATINx/a/o HERITAGE MONTH

Be proud of your past, Embrace the future

SEPTEMBER 15 – OCTOBER 15, 2021



EVENT INFO & LINKS TO ATTEND MEETS

Why We Should All Read Mexican American Author Maria Amparo Ruiz de Burton
Sept. 16 | 3:30 PM | Ellis White Lecture Hall

OPENING EVENT

Musician Jorge Arce

Sept. 16 | 8:00 PM | Hammond Hall

Exclusively for Latinx/a/o students, faculty, staff, and community members. Free admission. Free food and beverages.

Did You Know?

Sept. 21 | 4 PM | Quad

Join us for an afternoon of fun and games. Free admission. Free food and beverages.

Leading for Change at Hispanic Serving Institutions

Sept. 22 | 3:30 PM | Google Meet

Join us for a virtual discussion with experts in the field of Hispanic serving institutions.

CDI: In the Heights Movie Showing

Sept. 22 | 6:30 PM | Ellis White Lecture Hall

Deepening Connections with Heritage through Study Abroad

Sept. 29 | 3:30 PM | Google Meet

Presented by Music Services

Radio Host Jose Masso

Sept. 30 | 6:00 PM

Join us for a virtual discussion with the author of the book "The Sound of Silence" and the creator of the podcast "The Sound of Silence".

Latinx Heritage Month Paint Night

Oct. 1 | 7 PM | Hammond Hall

Join us for a fun and creative evening of painting. Free admission. Free food and beverages.

COUBAGEOUS CONVERSATION: In the Heights & Antiracism in Hispanic Latinx cultures

Oct. 1 | 3:30 PM | Hammond Hall

Join us for a virtual discussion with experts in the field of antiracism and Hispanic Latinx cultures.

A Taste of Latin America

Oct. 1 | 7:30 PM | Hammond Hall

Join us for a virtual discussion with experts in the field of Latin American cuisine.

Tracing the Term Latinx: Cultural Politics and Representation in the US

Oct. 1 | 2 PM | Google Meet

Join us for a virtual discussion with experts in the field of Latinx cultural politics and representation.

Professionalism: Using Language Skills in your Job/Internship Search

Oct. 1 | 3:30 PM | Ellis White Lecture Hall

Presented by Career Services

CLOSING EVENT

NPR Journalist Maria Hinojosa

Oct. 15 | 7 PM | Weston Auditorium

Join us for a virtual discussion with NPR journalist Maria Hinojosa.

Mexican-American author Maria Amparo Ruiz de Burton and how her work can enlighten all of us. The formal opening of the month's observances will follow at 8 p.m. Sept. 16 in the Falcon Hub, with a celebration featuring Afro-Caribeno music, activities and food.

[See the Calendar of Events](#)

COVID-19 restrictions explored in Constitution Day talk

A panel discussion on the legal and ethical implications of COVID-19 restrictions will mark our observance of Constitution Day at 12:30 p.m. Friday, Sept. 17 in the main lounge at Hammond Hall.

The event will also be streamed online at meet.google.com/ynq-egrq-sox.

Masks. Vaccines. Passports. Lockdowns. The pandemic has raised many questions and issues that have constitutional as well as ethical implications. This panel talk, moderated by Professor Paul Weizer (Economics, History and Political Science), will include students Miranda Gustin and Benjamin Hill (captains of our moot court team) as well as Professor Zachary Miner (Behavioral Sciences) and Professor David Svolba (Humanities).

Constitution Day is observed each year on Sept. 17, recognizing the anniversary of the document's signing in 1787.

Fitchburg State University
Constitution Day 2021

Panel Discussion
"COVID-19: the Constitution and Beyond"

Masks. Vaccines. Passports. Lockdowns.

Also available at 1PM: access to streaming of the National Constitution Center's "Scholar Exchange: Constitution All Stars" (registration required to receive link: <https://bit.ly/2Y9E1ys>)

The pandemic has raised many questions and issues that have Constitutional as well as ethical implications. In this panel, we will hear from experts in different fields on a variety of these ongoing debates. There will then be time for discussion and questions.

September 17th, 12:30PM
Hammond Main Lounge
Remote access available: meet.google.com/ynq-egrq-sox

Panelists:
Miranda Gustin (FSU Student)
Benjamin Hill (FSU Student)
Dr. Zachary Miner (Behavioral Sciences)
Dr. David Svolba (Humanities)

Moderator:
Dr. Paul Weizer (Economics, History, and Political Science)

Refreshments provided!

Fitchburg State University
General Education Program

Save the Date: Homecoming Oct. 1-3

Mark your calendars for our annual Homecoming celebration. The festivities will start Friday, Oct. 1, with a cookout followed by a pep rally, bonfire and carnival in the Ross Street parking lot.



The events will continue **Saturday, Oct. 2**, with traditions including the Gold Key induction ceremony for alumni from 50 or more years ago, and our homecoming football game at Elliot Field.

There will also be a [Falcon Walk](#) for members of the Class of 2020 who wish to recreate an in-person commencement photo on campus

(similar to what was presented this spring for members of the Class of 2021 in advance of our virtual commencement ceremonies).

Additional details will be shared soon.

Faculty embrace the pedagogy of "real talk"

Beginning last summer, 20 members of the Fitchburg State faculty in two cohorts have committed to improving their practice as part of an academy.

This faculty academy's work is built around themes raised in "The Pedagogy of Real Talk: Engaging, Teaching, and Connecting With Students At-Promise" by Dr. Paul G. Hernandez, a nationally recognized educator and consultant who has presented at Fitchburg State.

[Read about](#) the transformative experiences the participating faculty have described through their work.



University's downtown collaboration celebrated



The university's close collaboration with the city was celebrated recently when state Sen. Michael Rodrigues, chair of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means, toured redevelopment projects downtown, including the Theater Block.

Pictured, from left, are NewVue Communities Executive Director Marc Dohan, Sen. Rodrigues, President Lapidus, Mayor Stephen DiNatale, and state Sen. John Cronin.

Center for Professional Studies programming explores workplace bias

The university's Center for Professional Studies continues its series of offerings on equity and social change this October with a course exploring the complexity of culture and bias in the workplace.

The course, [Exploring the Complexity of Culture and Bias in the Workplace](#), will provide employers and employees with engaging opportunities to explore, examine and assess how they identify themselves to the world, how biases and misconceptions interfere with understanding others around them, and what systems limit diversity, inclusion, and equity.

[Learn more](#)



Grant will support open educational resources for students



Fitchburg State was among a consortium of colleges that was recently awarded more than \$440,000 from the U.S. Department of Education to increase the number of free, open educational resources (OER) that are designed with a diversity, equity and inclusive lens and used in lieu of more expensive traditional textbooks.

“The approach of creating or adapting OER using an equity lens to better serve underrepresented students, is exciting and novel,” said **Jacalyn Kremer**, dean of the Amelia V. Gallucci-Cirio Library. “In addition to Fitchburg State faculty receiving training and support for the creation of these culturally-relevant materials, librarians at the university will take the lead in tracking the project’s outcomes including its impact on student success.”

[Learn more](#)

CenterStage and Cultural Events

The Fitchburg State [CenterStage](#) arts and culture series will feature the sculptures, drawings and animations of artist Yuko Oda at the Hammond Hall Art Gallery through Friday, Oct. 8.

The exhibit, entitled “The Heaviness and Lightness of Being,” is a retrospective featuring more than a decade of sculptural installations that investigate the coexistence of nature with the synthetic and the human-engineered.

There will be an artist talk and



reception at 3:30 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 22 at the gallery.

Oda describes the respect and awe she feels for nature as inspiration for her work, with those emotions complicated by a realization that humans have indelibly transformed the natural world. The intersection of the natural and the manmade are explored through the artist's sculptural installations, drawings and animations.

[Learn more](#)

Faculty Notes

Professor Charles Sides (Communications Media) published "Internships in a Pandemic" in *Programmatic Perspectives*, the peer reviewed international publication of the Council for Programs in Technical and Scientific Communication.

[Join Our Mailing List](#)