



UNIVERSITY OF SAINT JOSEPH  
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# Off-Campus Update

Stay up-to-date with everything happening in the USJ Off-Campus Master's Program and learn about some exciting things happening on-campus as well!

January 10, 2020

University of Saint Joseph

## Left Brain, Right Brain and Multiple Intelligences



Learning and teaching were joyful experiences for students in EDUC 563 Visual Arts for Educators in Wethersfield this past Fall 2 session! With Mary Grace Cianci as instructor, students explored a bit of neuroscience and brain function before experimenting with graphic design and pattern analysis. The integration of the arts into curriculum at all levels provides opportunities for students with different ability levels and interest to engage with the curriculum through multiple modalities and encourages creative opportunities to express ideas and explore concepts, another iteration of Universal Design for Learning! The picture on the left shows a student in the class, Greg Garcia, who is also a high school English teacher at the

Greater Hartford Academy of the Arts. In the photo, he is observing plant and animal cellular samples on a microscope. Students were asked to observe the slides and then create a colored art piece. This was inspired by the art of a synthetic biologist who specializes in florescence microscopy. Zoe Mendal, a high school biology teacher in Bristol, led the class in learning about this artist and how to incorporate visual arts in science classes.

## Everything You Need To Know About the Spring 1 Session

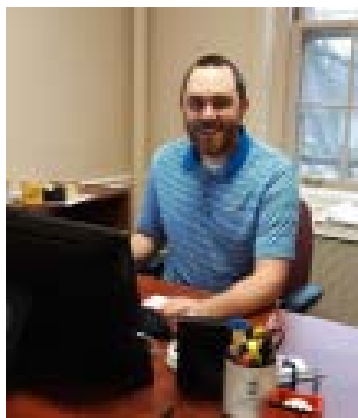
The Spring 1 session kicked off this week and will run until February 27, 2020. This session might be called "Spring 1," but the weather will likely not feel like Spring! It is very important to check your email and sign up for the USJ alert system to make sure you are notified of any USJ closings. Remember, the inclement weather policy states- 1. If USJ is closed, your class is also cancelled that evening. 2. If the site where your class is held is closed due to weather or building emergency, your class is cancelled. (Even if USJ is still open).

You should have completed Spring 2 and Summer Registration forms during the Fall 2 session. Those groups who will be taking the comprehensive exam in March or July, should have also received applications and registration forms. These forms should all have been signed and returned.

Finally, those students who are pursuing Cross-Endorsement in Special Education, should have received their application for the Summer Practicum. This application is due by February 1st. Please make sure you complete and return as soon as possible.

If you have not completed any of the above paperwork, are not sure if you completed it, or if you have any questions, please contact Julie Cleary- [juliecleary@usj.edu](mailto:juliecleary@usj.edu).

## Data by Day and Law Student by Night



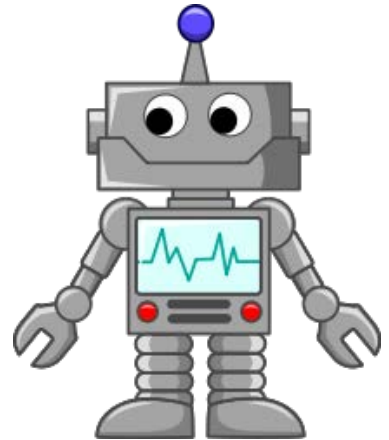
The Off-Campus Program and the Department of Education at USJ, has been working hard over the past two years to manage the many kinds of data that help us frame and assess the quality of our programs. We have been fortunate to have Joshua Murphy as our Data Guru! A graduate of Sacred Heart University and Southern Connecticut University, Joshua is a full-time student at the UCONN Law School. Since joining USJ in 2018, Joshua's expertise in managing Livetext is only exceeded by his mastery of edTPA. A leader of the CAEP Standard 1 Committee and a resource to other standards committees, Joshua is an invaluable resource to the whole education department!

Got a question about LiveText? Contact [joshuamurphy@usj.edu](mailto:joshuamurphy@usj.edu)

## Why Teachers Matter Now More Than Ever!

Will robots or other technologies eventually replace teachers? According to a [recent article](#) published by the Christensen Institute, educational technology can enhance the learning process in many ways. It CAN'T perform at least three critical functions:

- (1) Technology can't get to know a student—"Real knowing and understanding is a human-to-human experience."
- (2) Technology can't care about a student - even the best software "can't offer a sense of genuine caring."
- (3) Technology can't provide higher-order feedback or coach soft skills like setting personal goals and overcoming obstacles



## We Need Your Help!



Do you know a middle or high school with a future Teachers' Club? USJ is working with several schools to provide opportunities for middle and high school students to come to our campus to explore different teaching opportunities—especially in shortage areas like special education, world languages, and the sciences!

If you can suggest a contact person to help us reach out to prospective teachers, please contact: Dr. Andrea Spencer- [aspencer@usj.edu](mailto:aspencer@usj.edu)

# Comprehensive Exam Breakdown



We have two Comprehensive exams quickly approaching! Cohort 17 (except for TESOL!) will be taking the exam in March 2020 and Cohort 18 (except for TESOL) and Cohort 19 - MI Only will be taking the exam in July 2020. Below we have listed out all of the specific groups who will be taking the exam. Don't forget to sign up for the review session, read over the FAQ and the PowerPoint! Links, documents and more info about the exam can be found on the Off-Campus Student BlackBoard site. You can also contact [juliecleary@usj.edu](mailto:juliecleary@usj.edu) if you have any questions about the upcoming exams!

## March 2020 Comprehensive Exam Groups

Cohort 17- Waterbury -	Tuesday -	Curriculum and Instruction
Cohort 17- Waterbury -	Wednesday –	Special Education – Autism
Cohort 17- Waterbury -	Thursday –	Special Education
Cohort 17- Wethersfield -	Wednesday –	Instructional Technology
Cohort 17- Middletown -	Thursday -	Literacy
Cohort 17- Fairfield -	Thursday -	Curriculum and Instruction
Cohort 17- Fairfield -	Thursday –	Special Education

## July 2020 Comprehensive Exam Groups

Cohort 18- Plainville -	Tuesday -	Curriculum and Instruction
Cohort 18- Plainville -	Wednesday -	Instructional Technology
Cohort 18- Plainville -	Wednesday -	Special Education
Cohort 18- Plainville -	Thursday -	Literacy
Cohort 18- Manchester -	Wednesday –	Special Education
Cohort 18- Manchester -	Thursday –	Curriculum and Instruction
Cohort 18- Wilton -	Thursday –	Instructional Technology
Cohort 19- Middletown -	Thursday -	Multiple Intelligences

## Contact Us

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