

## OUR STAFF

- Peggy Crowe, Ph.D.  
Director
- Karl Laves, Ph.D.  
Associate Director
- Debra Crisp, Ph.D.  
Training Coordinator
- Brian Lee, MA, LPA  
Staff Counselor
- Elizabeth Madariaga, MA  
Coordinator, Sexual Assault Services
- Betsy Pierce, MA  
Coordinator of Outreach
- Todd Noffsinger, MAE  
Emerging Services Clinician
- Sharon Ercey, BS  
Coordinator of Testing
- Julia Johnson, AA  
Office Associate/Director of Awesomeness
- Teresa Jameson, BA  
Office Assistant
- Pat Rowan, M.A.  
Doctoral Psychology Intern
- Kelley Wilson, M.S.  
Doctoral Psychology Intern
- Siera Bramschreiber, BS  
Masters Psychology Intern
- Cody Haynes, BS  
Masters Psychology Intern

*"It is by standing up for the rights of girls and women that we truly measure up as men."*

*Desmond Tutu*

## SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS MONTH



*Elizabeth Madariaga pins a SAAM ribbon on Dr. Gary Ransdell during the 2015 proclamation signing, March 2.*

### ***The Clothesline Project Display***

March 17 from 10AM-5PM  
DSU Lawn

### ***Walk a Mile in Her Shoes***

March 17 at 3:30 PM  
Centennial Mall

### **With Support From:**

Meijer  
WKU's  
Health Education and Promotion  
Downing Student Union  
Police Department  
Greek Affairs

WKU's  
Intrafraternity Council  
Housing and Residence Life  
ALIVE Center  
Counseling and Testing Center  
Gender and Women's Studies

WKU's SIFE  
BRASS Inc.  
East West Kung Fu Academy  
Hope Harbor Inc.

### ***Eve Ensler's "The Vagina Monologues"***

March 17 at 7PM  
DSU Auditorium

### ***Love the Way You Lie***

March 24 at 7:30 PM  
DSU Auditorium

### ***Take Back the Night March/Rally***

March 26 at 6 PM  
Justice Center, Downtown B.G.

### ***Stun and Run***

### ***Personal Protection Class***

March 30 at 7:30 PM  
South Campus

<https://www.facebook.com/SAAMBGWC>

Contact: (270) 782-5014 or [educator2@hopeharbor.net](mailto:educator2@hopeharbor.net)

# Consistent Outreach, Strategic Management and Supportive Policies Help Students Benefit from CLEP Opportunities

Courtesy of College Board

## Western Kentucky University – Kentucky

Western Kentucky University (WKU) in Bowling Green, Kentucky, administers the largest number of CLEP exams in the state. In the 2013-14 academic year more than 600 students took advantage of credit-earning opportunities through the CLEP program, with students earning an impressive 2,146 credit hours.

WKU administrators credit an innovative outreach effort with the program's steady growth over the past several years. They also note that the university's policies about accepting credits for nearly every CLEP exam have contributed to their success in increasing the number of students taking CLEP exams and earning credit for prior learning.

## Creating Opportunities for Student Success

When planning the university's CLEP outreach initiative, WKU's testing center administrator first coordinated with the admissions office and asked to participate in freshman orientation. During these orientation sessions, freshman and their parents typically attend an informational presentation. Many parents were unaware that students could take CLEP exams in their junior and senior years of high school and they asked why they hadn't heard about the CLEP program earlier.

The question inspired WKU leaders to take action. They began sending letters and a CLEP brochure to high school guidance counselors in the near and surrounding areas to introduce the testing center and the WKU team. The following year, they reached out to incoming freshmen whose college entrance exam scores indicated they were qualified as good candidates for CLEP testing by mail. Response was encouraging but WKU had their sights set on bigger goals.

The WKU team then began to focus more on the outreach to parents and families, with many of the conversations focused on the solid financial benefits of earning college credit through CLEP exams.

## Connecting with Internal Audiences and Stakeholders

The WKU team learned that its own campus advisors needed current and consistent information about the CLEP program. WKU's Campus Advising Network meets monthly and the testing center team continues to make presentations about the university's CLEP program at this important staff event. These events have been so successful in encouraging students to take CLEP exams that the university's business college paid for CLEP brochure printing. This brochure is available at the testing center and throughout the campus. WKU operates several regional campuses and testing center managers have also presented several informational meetings on site at these campuses, making sure that the entire 20,000+ student body is aware of the CLEP program, how it works, and where they can access additional information.

Additionally, testing center managers have worked with the high schools near the university's regional campuses to set up special CLEP testing times. The main campus testing center also uses flexible scheduling, to fit with students' needs and timing. It's another example of the way WKU is creating opportunities for student success, beginning at the high school level.

## Making Policy Work for Students and the University

WKU accepts credit for 32 of the 33 CLEP exams. The WKU policies and procedures have evolved over the years. Previously, credit equivalencies needed to be reviewed through curriculum channels. In the last years, the new policy empowers department chairs to determine equivalency. As a result, students face fewer barriers in earning credits for prior learning.

## A WKU Success Story

Earning credit through CLEP exams is an excellent investment for hundreds of WKU students. Administrators proudly point to this recent example of a student's success with CLEP. An Air Force member took nine CLEP exams and received credit for eight of those, earning 33 hours of credit. This student reported that she was able to earn a four-year degree in just two years, saving nearly \$10,000. She has now joined the WKU team in the testing and counseling area where she plans to be a strong CLEP advocate.

## Policy Paves the Way for Other Institutions in Kentucky

Kentucky House Bill 160, passed during the 2010 legislative session, paved the way to a policy guaranteeing college credit at all the state's public four-year universities and two-year community and technical colleges to students earning qualifying scores through the College Board's Advanced Placement Program (AP) and College-Level Examination Program (CLEP) exams. The policy was crafted to help students reduce college costs and increase the number of students graduating on time. [The policy states](#) that students of all ages need to earn a qualifying score of 50 or higher on a CLEP exam to earn college credit.

## WKU CLEP by the Numbers

- Over 1,900 students gained between 3 and 12 credit hours in the last three academic years (2011-2014).

Over 6,500 credit hours were earned in the last three academic years (2011-2014).

## WKU Best Practices at a Glance

- Continual outreach to high school guidance counselors, students and parents
- Focused communication to internal stakeholders
- Flexible testing center hours to accommodate students' schedules

Responsive and broad credit granting policies



# Did you know . . .

## ***March is***

American Red Cross Month  
Brain Injury Awareness Month  
Employee Spirit Month  
Expanding Girls' Horizons in Science & Engineering Month  
International Women's Month  
Irish-American Heritage Month  
Music In Our Schools Month  
National Athletic Training Month  
National Caffeine Awareness Month  
National Ethics Awareness Month  
National March Into Literacy Month  
National Nutrition Month  
National Social Work Month  
National Women's History Month  
Poison Prevention Awareness Month  
Save Your Vision Month  
Sing With Your Child Month  
Social Work Month  
Spiritual Wellness Month

## ***Daily observances***

### ***March 6***

Employee Appreciation Day

### ***March 7***

National Be Heard Day  
Sock Monkey Day

### ***March 8***

International Women's Day  
Daylight Savings Time Begins



### ***March 9***

Get Over It Day  
Napping Day

### ***March 10***

International Day of Awesomeness  
Salvation Army Day

### ***March 11***

Dream 2015 Day

### ***March 12***

Girl Scout Birthday Day

### ***March 13***

Good Samaritan Involvement Day  
K-9 Veterans Day  
World Sleep Day

### ***March 14***

International Ask A Question Day  
Mother's Day  
Potato Chip Day  
Pi Day

### ***March 15***

Ides of March  
World Consumer Rights Day

### ***March 16***

Freedom of Information Day  
Curlew Day  
No Selfies Day

### ***March 17***

St. Patrick's Day

### ***March 18***

Awkward Moments Day  
National Agriculture Day

### ***March 19***

Client's Day  
Operation Iraqi Freedom Day

### ***March 20***

Kiss Your Fiancée Day  
Spring (Vernal Equinox): (6:45 pm)  
Snowman Burning Day  
World Storytelling Day

### ***March 21***

Brain Injury Awareness Day  
International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination  
National Single Parent Day



### ***March 22***

Education and Sharing Day  
Tuskegee Airmen Day

### ***March 23***

National Puppy Day  
National Chocolate Covered Raisins Day

### ***March 24***

American Diabetes Association Alert Day

### ***March 25***

National Medal of Honor Day  
Pecan Day

### ***March 26***

Make Up Your Own Holiday Day  
Purple Day

### ***March 27***

Celebrate Exchange Day

### ***March 28***

Barnum & Bailey Day

### ***March 30***

World Bi-polar Day

### ***March 31***

National "She's Funny That Way" Day

**FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THE  
WKU COUNSELING & TESTING CENTER  
CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE AT [WWW.WKU.EDU/HERETOHELP/](http://WWW.WKU.EDU/HERETOHELP/)**

## SPOTLIGHT

### PEGGY CROWE



Dr. Peggy Crowe is the Director of the Counseling & Testing Center. I moved to Kentucky from Wisconsin in February, 1996, to pursue my Master of Arts degree in Student Affairs. I also worked full time in the Department of Housing & Residence Life.

After completing my Master's degree in 1998, I served in various other roles at WKU, including an Area Coordinator, M.A.S.T.E.R. Plan Coordinator, UC175 instructor, and Assistant Director for HRL. I left WKU in 2002 to pursue my Ph.D. in Higher Education Administration at Bowling Green State University, Ohio.

I returned to WKU in 2004 and worked with Dr. Gene Tice and Howard Bailey, coordinating

development and fundraising efforts within the division of Student Affairs. In turn, this was the focus of my dissertation research, "Development & Fundraising Efforts within Divisions of Student Affairs at 4-year Public Universities".

After serving as Asst. Dir. for HRL (2006-2013), I was promoted to Associate Director for HRL. I became the Interim Director for the CTC in 2013.

I have fully enjoyed serving WKU in these two positions the past year and a half. Both roles have allowed me the opportunity to continue to work with faculty, staff, and students and have put all of my educational preparation and experiences into practice! I have learned so much from the CTC team and they have certainly challenged and helped to make me a better higher education professional. I enjoy spending time with my family (husband Michael and 5-year old son Michael, III) – my most important "job." I have a new-found love of spinning class, traveling back home to Wisconsin to visit family, and cheering on the Green Bay Packers.

## Counseling Services

*College should be challenging, not overwhelming*

That's why we're here to help, offering our services Monday thru Friday from 8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. There is a ONE-TIME \$20.00 fee for paperwork and documentation. After the one-time fee, students have access to unlimited visits for their entire college career here at WKU. Our services are confidential and NO information is released without the student's written permission, unless in an emergency situation. So if your mom, grandma, or next door neighbor calls to learn about your counseling appointment, "mums" the word.

We offer individual and group counsel-

ing services to help with coping strategies, conflict resolution, and crisis situations related to:

<b>College Adjustment</b>	<b>Eating Disorder</b>
<b>Decision Making</b>	<b>Bipolar Disorder</b>
<b>Problem Behaviors</b>	<b>Stress Management</b>
<b>Grief/Loss</b>	<b>Depression/Anxiety</b>
<b>Relationship Issues</b>	<b>Suicide Prevention</b>
<b>Sexual Assault/Abuse</b>	<b>....and more!</b>

**Don't Forget! We also offer counseling for couples of all kinds: friends, relationships and roommates.**

### Testing Services Available

The Counseling and Testing Center offers most national tests such as CLEP, MAT, LSAT, DSST, ACT, NBCC, PCAT, HESI and COMPASS. Residual ACT and Chemistry Placement tests are also available. For more information on testing dates, see

[www.registerblast.com/wku](http://www.registerblast.com/wku)

PRAXIS testing dates are at [www.ets.org/praxis](http://www.ets.org/praxis).

Questions may be e-mailed to: [testingcenter@wku.edu](mailto:testingcenter@wku.edu).

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