BUS105 and BUSN105

Welcome Message

Welcome to Business and Society, the first course in your Business Program academic adventure. You are about to embark on an exciting, intense, and fulfilling journey that starts by offering you an opportunity to construct a strong foundation for your learning experience. As with any major life-changing event, success is often determined by the amount of support mechanisms available along the way. The Business School at AIU wants to be a support in your success. Therefore, the team has strategically put into place a wide array of success-building tools and resources to equip you for this journey. You are encouraged to tour the course area, click on all links, and review all course materials and resources. Be sure to locate the various support options so you can use them as needed throughout your program. A few particularly popular resources that might be of interest include the following:

- AIU Learning Lab
- Library
- Turnitin.com Video
- Technology Support
- Instant Messaging
- Live Chat and Chat Archives
- Tutoring
- E-mail Tool
- Course Material Presentations, Activities, and Web Resources
- APA Links

The faculty, staff, and alumni of the Business program, also offer a few Tips for Success.

**Time Management**: Even though the program is constructivist in nature and provides a self-directed learning environment, the courses move swiftly, and a great deal of information is covered per unit. Therefore, do not wait until the last moment to try and complete your assignments. Set aside some time throughout the unit to work on your assignments. Stay involved, connect to the unit discussions, and be sure to review the chat archives if you cannot attend.

**Stay Engaged**: Stay engaged throughout the unit by keeping contact with your classmates and professor. The Discussion Board is one of the great tools to stay connected with the content and your class. By contributing throughout the unit in the DB, chats, and e-mail areas, your knowledge and skills will grow. Be sure to make use of the Instant Message (IM) capabilities built into the virtual classroom, and stop by your instructor’s office during his or her hours when you need a real-time connection.
**Master APA:** As with any discipline, academic education has its own communication approach, which includes terminology and presentation requirements. This is important so that information can be consistently shared. APA is the language of choice for business education and business research. It may take a little time to master at first, but it is definitely worth it in the end. The Business program has many resources put in place to help you in this task. Begin by participating in the APA tutorial links in the AIU Learning Lab, the AIU Library, and the APA Web site provided in your reading assignments.

**Reach out:** You are now a part of the AIU community of learners and therefore have a group of classmates, faculty, and staff who are available to assist you at any time. Be sure to reach out at any time during your academic journey for assistance, sharing, and networking. It is a community of practice endeavor, so immerse yourself in the community.

**Be Open to New Ideas:** Embrace new knowledge, encourage critique, be open to feedback from your classmates and your professors, and commit to academic and personal growth. You will be amazed at the rewards.

As you proceed on this educational adventure, remember that your AIU Business community is here to support you throughout the program. Good luck and enjoy the journey.