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Finance and Accounting Club

Elgin Community College

Gies Transfer Advisor Visit

Today's meeting features Dayna Jones, a transfer advisor from the Gies College of Business at UIUC. She talked about the transfer process, admission requirements, and tips to make your application stronger.

1.) Icebreaker w/ Mr. Packard about Deloitte Office Tour

- a.) Wear nice clothes (polo/button down shirt, nice dress pants, no gym shoes)
- b.) Look presentable and professional
- c.) Bring leather portfolio
- d.) Take notes and ask questions

2.) Gies Overview and Majors

- a.) 11 majors in total; 9 open on the transfer application (Business + Data Science not included in transfer; declare it once you transfer)
- b.) Double majoring is possible without delaying graduation
- c.) Business class order: BUS 101 (Business Foundations), BUS 201 (Business Dynamics), BUS 301 (Business in Action), BUS 401 (Crafting Your Purpose)
- d.) Stats/Numbers: 3,000+ undergrad students - 29:1 student to faculty ratio - \$81,621 average starting salary - #4 public undergrad business school, 91% complete internship

3.) What Gies is Looking For:

- a.) *Gies Competencies*: Purpose, Professionalism, People Skills
- b.) Academic Record: Grades and GPA, high school grades (if applying as a sophomore), required courses, college-earned credit hours

- c.) Involvement: College-level sports, clubs, volunteer work, jobs, etc.
- d.) Writing Prompt: Essay + optional Essays

4.) What is NOT considered

- a.) ACT/SAT scores
- b.) High school grades (if applying as a junior)
- c.) High school involvements
- d.) Which college you transferred from
- e.) Major choice
- f.) Resume
- g.) Letters of recommendation

5.) Essays - Common Mistakes/Tips

- a.) Optional essays are for explaining low grades or highlighting strengths
- b.) Make sure to keep essays focused on yourself
- c.) Answer every question in the prompt thoroughly
- d.) Do NOT use AI to write your essay - grammar checks and organization is fine
- e.) Have someone review your essays before submitting them

6.) How CC Students Can Prepare to Apply

- a.) Check AP courses and IB credits from high school
- b.) Use Transferology to make sure your credits transfer
- c.) Get involved in extracurricular activities (does not have to be business related)

7.) Gies Transfer Handbook - Required Coursework

- a.) End of first year: Language other than English (3 years), Microeconomics, Macroeconomics, Composition I, Computer Science, Math (Precalculus, Calculus, or Statistics - pick one)
- b.) End of second year - All of the above + Accountancy I and Accountancy II (make sure to take these classes at the same institution because they are transferred as a pair)
- c.) Public speaking is recommended but not required

8.) Dates and Deadlines

- a.) Application opens: January 15th
- b.) Priority Decision: deadline February 1st, notification April 15th
- c.) Regular Decision: deadline April 1st, notification June 1st

9.) Internships and Career Support

- a.) Career advisors help with LinkedIn, resumes, etc.
- b.) Gies Recruiting Roadmap: career fair in September; Employer showcases and interviews are spread throughout the year (Oct/Nov, Jan, March/April), common offer periods depend on industry

10.) Advice from Miguel, a student at Gies

- a.) Get your grades up
- b.) Plan ECC classes around your transfer goal from the start

11.) Financial Aid

- a.) Automatically considered for merit scholarships when you apply
- b.) Applying for FAFSA is required
- c.) Apply for private scholarships

12.) Q&A

- a.) Foreign language: complete through the 3rd level in college if you didn't in high school
- b.) Only need ONE required math class (pre-calc, calc, or stats) - not all three
- c.) English classes required for international students unless they went to an English-speaking high school

Join us for our next meeting on,

Wednesday, September 23rd 2026