

Clerical Office Assistant

Degree Awarded: Certificate

Recommended Course Sequence

First Semester		Credits
OFT 108	Intermediate Computer Keyboarding	3
OFT 208	Computer Fundamentals for the Office or Business Elective	3
OFT 209	Microsoft Word and PowerPoint Business Elective	3
Second Semester		
OFT 109	Advanced Computer Keyboarding	3
BUS 203	Business Communications	3
OFT 201	Records/Information Management	3
OFT 207	Transcription Skills	3
OFT 214	Microsoft Excel and Access	3
Total Credits:		27

Program Description

The Clerical Office Assistant certificate program provides the opportunity for graduates to either begin their careers as office assistants or to update their current office skills for re-entry into the business world. Areas of concentration include information processing, data entry, business communications and information management.

The office assistant provides office support to employers in a wide variety of settings. This support includes document production, computer software capability, records management, telephone interaction, customer service, keyboarding and data entry.

Students take a sequence of office skills courses such as keyboarding, Microsoft Word and PowerPoint, Excel and Access, and transcription. They also learn to compose business documents through the Business Communications course and to manage office documents through the Records/Information Management course.

Students learn to use modern office equipment and computer software as they apply to various work environments. Microsoft Office (Word, Excel, PowerPoint, and Access) as well as WordPerfect software programs are presented.

Admission Criteria

Admission to this program requires that students be high school graduates or have high school equivalency diplomas (GEDs). If students are not high school graduates, they may be eligible for admission to the College's 24 Credit Hour Program. If students are home schooled, they may be eligible for admission. (See pages 7 through 13 for more details on the admission process for all applicants.)

Students without sufficient keyboarding ability will be required to take Elementary Computer Keyboarding. Students with sufficient keyboarding ability to pass the waiver for Intermediate Computer Keyboarding fulfill this requirement with a business elective. To complete this program in one year, students must have basic keyboarding skills before enrolling in the program.

Student Learning Outcomes

Students will:

- demonstrate the ability to keyboard business correspondence using various computer software programs in word/information processing.
- demonstrate the ability to keyboard straight copy for five minutes with a maximum of three errors.
- understand computer concepts and applications for the office environment.
- learn critical thinking skills through an analytical business report project.



Career Opportunities

- service
- education
- travel
- entertainment
- manufacturing
- legal & medical
- insurance
- industrial
- media/advertising

Transfer Opportunities

While this certificate program leads to immediate job placement upon graduation, SUNY Orange has a special relationship with Franklin University for transfer to the B.S. degree in Applied Management. In addition, all courses taken for this certificate may be applied to the A.A.S. Office Technologies degree program at SUNY Orange.

Contact Information

Business Department Chair
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Admissions Office
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