

DDC Business Logistics Certificate Update

By: Stacy Umstead, DDC Command Affairs

The first of six accredited courses is currently underway at Defense Distribution Center (DDC). Each week, employees of DDC and Defense Distribution Depot Susquehanna, Pennsylvania (DDSP) are feeling a sense of déjà vu attending English 015, a course brought to the DDC through a partnership with Penn State University.

Elisa Cohen, English 015 Instructor, states “I have been impressed by the enthusiastic attitude of the students. While many have not been in a classroom environment for a period of time, they consistently demonstrate a genuine desire to improve their writing skills. They recognize the value of effective oral and written communication not only in the workplace, but also in their personal lives.”

The students’ outlook has been positive too . . .

“Taking this college course is something that I’ve wanted to do for the past 23 years. I never had the courage to take the first step. The DDC has made it easy and convenient for all of us. This is something I will give credit to the DDC for the rest of my life!”

“The class will allow me to put my thoughts into words for better communication to my customers and day to day contacts!”

“I’m a WORKING MOM—enough said! The day I registered my son for 1st grade, I registered for this class. I didn’t think it was possible to add another ball into the juggling act, but I knew it was important to my career and would benefit the DDC. Each class brings new ideas and concepts to my thought process and allows me to better communicate the written word. However, I still cannot answer my son’s question—“Mommy, what grade are you in?!”

English 015 allows the student to think critically, evaluate statistical evidence, analyze arguments, research and write essays.

The program is customized to meet the specific needs of DDC, as well as the academic criteria established by Penn State. The program consists of an in-depth series of business

and logistics courses, including several soft-skill courses, which will take approximately 24 months to complete.

The Business Logistics Certificate Program is a DDC initiative intended not only to increase individual employees’ skills and knowledge in the field of business and logistics, but to further enhance the skills of the overall DDC organization and to prepare for tomorrow’s challenges.



Elisa Cohen, English 015 Instructor, talks to her students during the Tuesday night class.

DDC and DDSP employees attend English 015, through a partnership between Penn State and the DDC.

