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Downtown Salt Lake City offers a Distinctive Urban Classroom for Freshman Orientation at Utah’s Neumont University

Salt Lake City, October 2, 2013 – Typically, Freshmen Orientation often involves football games, bonding exercises, and speeches by faculty and staff over the massive quads at tree-lined campuses. But, for Neumont University who recently renovated the Tribune Building at 143 South Main Street, Freshman Orientation is a chance to orient students to the business district that will be an integral part of their computer science education. To ensure Neumont’s incoming freshman population is prepared for the intense, year-round, 9-to-5 program, the University created a week-long new student orientation session which includes a course titled ‘The Art & Science of Success.’ Through this course, students learn about habits of academic success and explore the professional environment they’ll enter upon graduation – the tech industry.

At Neumont University, Freshman Orientation is different. All of Neumont’s tech-oriented programs are delivered in a compressed 2.5 to 3.0 year format, and designed specifically around the needs of industry in computer science and related fields. For students in Neumont’s Art and Science of Success course, this means interfacing with hiring companies, introducing themselves to local businesses, and navigating the TRAX free fare zone en route to various orientation activities.

Photo Opportunity: Thursday and Friday – 9:00 am – 11:00 am (Campus) 2:30 – 4:30 (Salt Lake Library)
Location: Neumont University Campus - 143 South Main Street, Salt Lake City or the Downtown Library
Event: Freshmen learn the principles of collaboration through team-based exercises and challenges, learn life skills at Freshman Seminars, and explore activities geared toward preparing them for college life.

Neumont University President, Edward Levine explained the reasoning behind integrating the city into the orientation experience by saying, “At Neumont, we take our commitment to the success of our students very seriously. We believe that the college experience is enhanced by the community surrounding a campus. We created an orientation that helps our freshmen familiarize themselves with their new home while also developing the skills needed for success in college and career, from the ability to take notes to the understanding of how to network and introduce oneself to a potential hiring partner.”

Key features of Neumont’s orientation program:

1. The Art & Science of Success course: a week-long course built around principles of study skills, time management, note taking, and prioritization that helps prepare students for school and career.
2. Lessons Learned Panel: students hear from alumni and current students on what it takes to succeed in Neumont’s intense program and their future careers.
3. Industry Access: Student gain an opportunity to network with the corporate partners who sponsor Neumont student projects and hire Neumont graduates and to find out about future career options.
4. Student Advocate: All incoming freshmen are assigned an advocate who ensures the student is on track to success. Advocates support any academic or personal needs the student may have.
5. Life skills Seminars: Life skills, shopping, budgeting, meal preparation, and hygiene. Many students don’t learn these skills at home and the University offers simple tutorials to prepare students for independent living.
ABOUT NEUMONT UNIVERSITY

Neumont was founded in Salt Lake City, Utah, to fill the growing national demand for industry-ready technology professionals. Neumont is a nationally accredited higher education institution with an exclusive focus on computer science and closely related innovation disciplines.¹ Neumont has re-engineered the traditional, four-year college degree program into an intense, 2.5 to 3.0 year course of study that immerses students in a rigorous, project-based curriculum and prepares them to join the technology elite the day they graduate. Students attend classes full-time, year round, Monday through Friday, and complete 180 credits, including general education courses and core technology disciplines.

BACHELOR’S DEGREES

- B.S. in Computer Science
- B.S. in Information Systems
- B.S. in Software & Game Development
- B.S. in Technology Management
- B.S. in Web Design and Development

FOCUSED + PROJECT-BASED

Unlike the graduates of many traditional universities, who have little practical experience working in teams on real software development projects, with real deadlines, Neumont students graduate with a portfolio of relevant work experience. The Neumont pedagogy is distinguished by Enterprise Projects, a sequence of mandatory, team-based collaborations with industry which provide students an opportunity to develop relevant professional experience and contacts in industry.

NATIONALLY RECOGNIZED

Neumont’s innovative approach to computer science education has been recognized by Forbes, CNN, CNBC, MSNBC, USA Today, and the U.S. Department of Education for innovation in Higher Education.

“Neumont University is educating the most sought-after software developers in the world. Neumont’s curriculum is project-based and focuses on the skills most valued by today’s employers.”


More information is available at: www.neumont.edu.

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¹ Accredited member, ACICS.