

HCC spring non-credit courses will meet online

In keeping with recommendations from public health officials and Gov. Charlie Baker's stay-at-home advisory, Holyoke Community College has shifted its non-credit professional development and personal enrichment classes to online and remote forums for the foreseeable future.

Anyone with extra time who is interested in classes that are fun, educational or entertaining can now do so from the comfort and safety of their homes using a computer, tablet or smart phone.

As of Monday, March 30, HCC

began offering all of its credit-based certificate and degree programs remotely while restricting access to its main campus and satellite offices.

Students will have the opportunity to engage with live instructors and classmates by voice and video using online platforms like Zoom, WebEx and Google Hangouts.

"We've had to be very creative with some of our courses, like painting and dancing," said Michele Cabral, HCC's executive director of professional development and corporate learning. "For Acrylics, for example, the teacher will

share her screen during the lesson and have students share their own; Puerto Rican Bomba is similar to an online workout class."

Classes are forming now for the remainder of the spring semester. Some current options include:

Arts: Introduction to Pastels; Watercolor Journaling (April 11-18)

Business and Career: Leadership Series including Personal Effectiveness, Critical Thinking, and Emotional Intelligence; Supervisory Series; Notary Public; Microsoft Excel 2016

Dance and Health: Puerto Rican

Bomba

Money Management: Extreme Couponing; SS Income Strategies; Earning Extra Money with a Mystery Shopping Business; Protecting Your Financial Nest Egg

Others: Memory, Dementia and Alzheimers; How to be a Smart Landlord; Elder Law and Estate Planning; Flying Drones: Prep for the FAA Exam.

To see a full schedule of courses or to register, visit hcc.edu/spring-online or email Valentyna Semyrog at vsemyrog@hcc.edu.