



Ultimate Successes:

OZARKA COLLEGE

CELEBRATES NON-TRADITIONAL STUDENTS November 7-11



Are you traditional or non-traditional? Traditional students are those who enter college right after graduating from high school and are dependents of their parents until they graduate from college.

Non-traditional students are “everybody else”—college students who might be **married**, or who **may have children** of their own, or who are **financially independent** from their parents, or are **age 24** or older, or who **work full-time** while taking classes full or part-time, or who **earned a GED** rather than a traditional high school diploma.

Because of their added responsibilities, non-traditional students must be very determined, and seek and receive lots of support to persist in reaching their educational goals.

According to the U.S. Department of Education, of nearly 21 million college students in 2009, about 40% fit the “non-traditional” description based on age alone—over age 24.

Look inside:

- Advise from veteran Non-trads
- Stories of Ozarka Non-trads
- Register for prizes
- Non-trad scholarship t-shirt

Kudos to our hard-working, non-traditional students! Keep up the great work!



Ozarka College

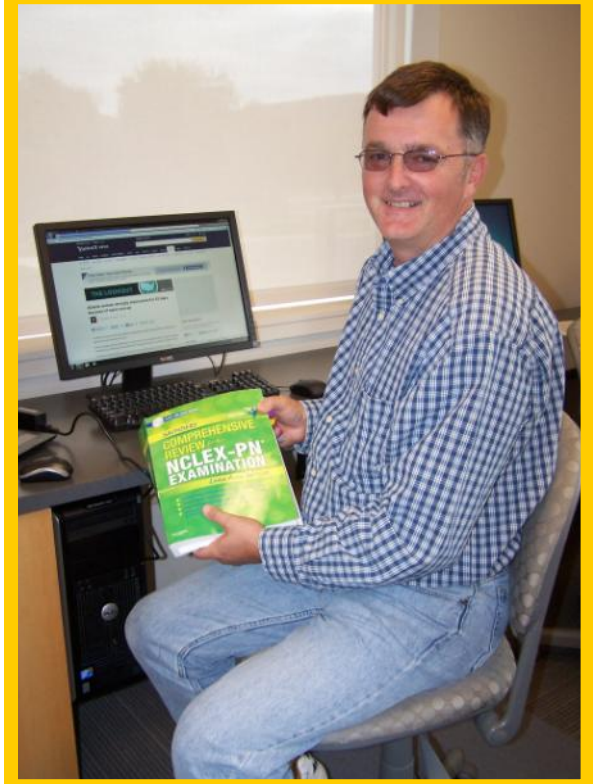
Provides Life-Changing Experiences Through Education

Non-trads pushing through: MARK PENTER, Mountain View

Mark Penter is an LPN student in Mountain View. Originally from Truman, AR, Mark has been a resident in Shirley for about 6 years. He is an Air Force veteran who served abroad in Germany. For the past few years Mark has done small-scale landscape work, and has worked for the US Census Bureau.

Regarding the LPN program, Mark said, "I really enjoy the camaraderie with the LPN students and the feeling of growing together along with the instructor. And we have lots of activities." Mark has found technology issues to be of a particular challenge for non-traditional students. Changes in the NCLEX software versions have been particularly troublesome for him. His advice to new non-traditional students is, "If you are not familiar with the internet, seek advise and find out what you need to know in advance to know what kind of computer you will need. You need to have an idea of how to navigate through it."

Mark plans to earn his RN, is also considering radiology, and he desires to eventually work for Veteran's Hospital. Mark is especially thankful that federal funding has been available for him. "Without it, I couldn't go to college."



**Complete a survey
for a chance to WIN!**

- Walmart Gift Card
- T-shirts
- Other freebies

*(Place completed surveys
inside the box at the Non-Trad
display for a chance to WIN)*

***"Make college a
priority.
Avoid sacrificing
the future for an
immediate fix."***

*Richard Williams, Ozarka Graduate
AA General Education 2004,
Current Ozarka Adjunct Instructor
and Student Success Tutor*

