

Alfred University offering two new extension graduate programs downstate

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Alfred University will open two new extension graduate programs at St. Francis College in Brooklyn Heights. An information session for interested alumni is set for Thursday, June 3, 2010, 5 to 7 p.m. at the college, 180 Remsen St., Brooklyn Heights. New offerings include the masters of professional studies in community services administration and the masters of business administration (MBA). The professional studies major is a public administration program designed for individuals seeking to work in public and not-for-profit agencies. The MBA is designed for individuals who desire careers in corporate settings. These programs are tailored for working professionals who are unable to attend traditional graduate programs. Course sessions meet on weekends and during the summer, to accommodate work schedules. Both programs are structured so that students can complete their course of study in one academic year and one summer. Alfred University offers master of science in education degrees in school counseling and literacy through its Downstate program, initiated in 2006. The satellite counseling programs mirror those offered on the University's main campus. Downstate classes are taught at venues in Brooklyn, at St. Francis College, and on Long Island. According to Dr. John D. Cerio, professor of psychology and director of AU-Downstate, almost all the students enrolled in the programs have professional background in education. "They're learning the Alfred approach, which is very practical and skills-based. They like the personal contact they get, not only from our faculty, but from the faculty they have in the city," Cerio said.