

For Further Information Contact:

Kelly Herzog
MVCTC Public Information Coordinator
Phone - 937-854-6056
E-Mail – kherzog@mvctc.com



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MVCTC Biotechnology Program

Clayton, Ohio – The Miami Valley Career Technology Center (MVCTC) Biotechnology program students will build upon their knowledge to explore uses for science. Students will perform experiments in agriculture, medicine, forensics, genetics, and many other areas. Students in Biotechnology leave high school CPR/First Aid certified and with skills to pursue additional education and careers in laboratory instrumentation, biochemical technology, molecular biology, cell culturing, and bioethics.

The Biotechnology Program has had great success in Health Occupations Students of America (HOSA) competitions over the last few years. They have used the knowledge they gained in the Biotechnology Program to compete in the National HOSA Competitions. This includes a top 10 finish in the nation in Biotechnology competitive event by 2008 graduate, Kierra Stephens (Trotwood); 2nd place in the nation in Biotechnology by 2012 graduate Derek Warner (Brookville); and first place in Forensic Medicine by 2013 graduates Drew Ratzel (Northmont) and Quinn Gray (Tri-Village).

Many MVCTC Biotechnology graduates go on to college right after completing the program, majoring in Conservation Biology, Pre-Med, Biochemistry, Immunology, Microbiology, Biotechnology, Biology, and Pre-Veterinary Medicine. These graduates pursue careers as Clinical Laboratory Scientist, Registered Nurse, Research Assistants, Conservation Scientist, or Medicine.

Current MVCTC Biotechnology senior, Margaret Myers (Tri-County North), plans to use what she has learned at MVCTC to pursue a degree in Chemical Engineering from the University of Cincinnati. "I believe that MVCTC has prepared me for my future by giving me practice in laboratory techniques, leadership opportunities and forcing me to step outside of my comfort zone and realize that there's a much bigger world out there than I could see."

Bryant Drazer (Northmont), a MVCTC Biotechnology 2011 graduate, is currently a Forensic Science student at the University of Findlay. Bryant shared, "I have always liked science and through the Biotechnology program at MVCTC learned about the many career options science offers. I discovered my passion in the forensic science field."

Desiree Yunker, 2010 Biotechnology graduate from Brookville currently studying Clinical Laboratory Science at Wright State, “I love that what I learned in high school in Biotechnology applies in college. My first writing assignment was about an experiment analyzing restriction enzymes on DNA with electrophoresis. I had the knowledge I learned at MVCTC to apply to that report.”

Based on the 2011 follow-up data (the most recent reported by the state), 100% of MVCTC Biotechnology students were employed, in the military, or enrolled in college or advanced training after leaving MVCTC. This program also reported 100% program completion and 100% academic attainment in math, reading, and science.

For more information about MVCTC, please visit www.mvctc.com.

For over 40-years, MVCTC has been providing career technical education for 27 partner school districts encompassing five counties, including Darke, Miami, Montgomery, Preble, and Warren Counties. MVCTC is dedicated to providing in-demand workforce training for youth, adults, and organizations in the Miami Valley.

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Photo 1: MVCTC Biotechnology senior from Tri-County North, Margaret Myers.