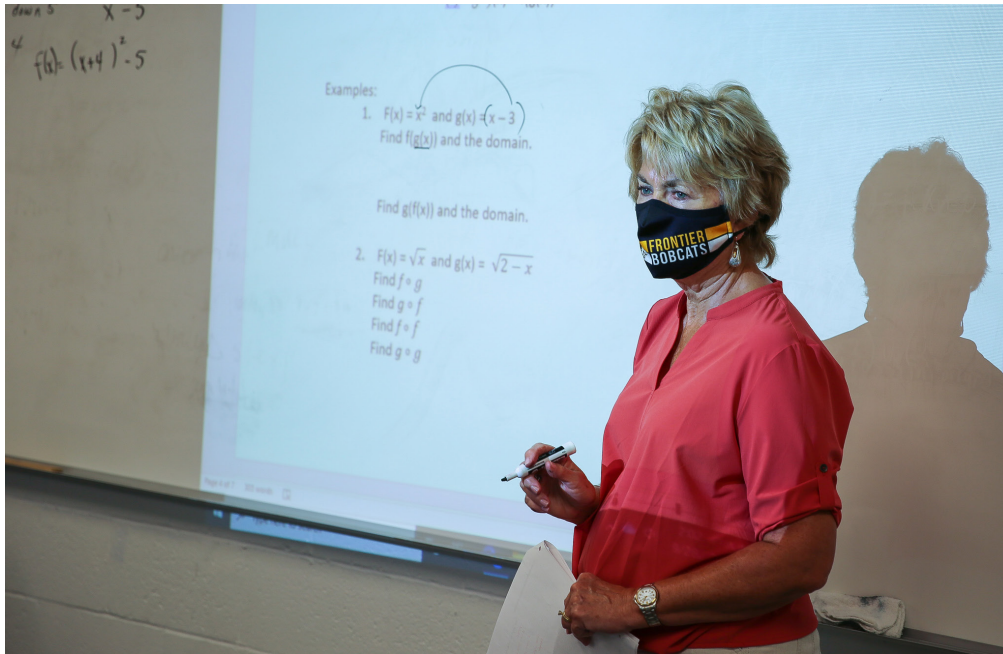




## QUANTITY AND QUALITY



*Linda Monge teaching*

Linda Monge’s Quantitative Reasoning Math 1104 course has become the second online course at Frontier Community College to be certified by Quality Matters, QM. Title III coordinator, Carol Dreith says “Since the pandemic, many institutions have converted courses to online/hybrid delivery. What makes Frontier unique is two of FCC’s courses have been converted to meet research-based standards of quality. Associate Professor of Mathematics Linda Monge invested many hours in designing hybrid Math 1104 to meet stringent standards established by QM proven to improve course clarity and organization from a student’s perspective. The awarding of FCC Math 1104 with the coveted QM Certification makes FCC one of only 4 community colleges in the State of Illinois to offer QM certified courses and the only community college located outside of a major metropolitan area.”

The rarity of this certification is caused by the difficult and meticulous nature of the QM review. The hours of work required for this process can be “overwhelming” according to Debbie Bryant, Distance Learning Specialist at FCC and certified QM Master Reviewer. “There are 42 standards by which the course content is measured and scored. After the initial review, a [QM] report is provided for the

## Upcoming Events

### April

15 Spring Holiday

### May

06 Last Day of Classes

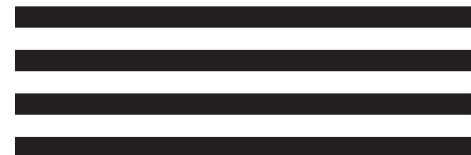
09 Start of Final Exams

13 Last Day of Semester/Graduation

16 First Day of Intersession

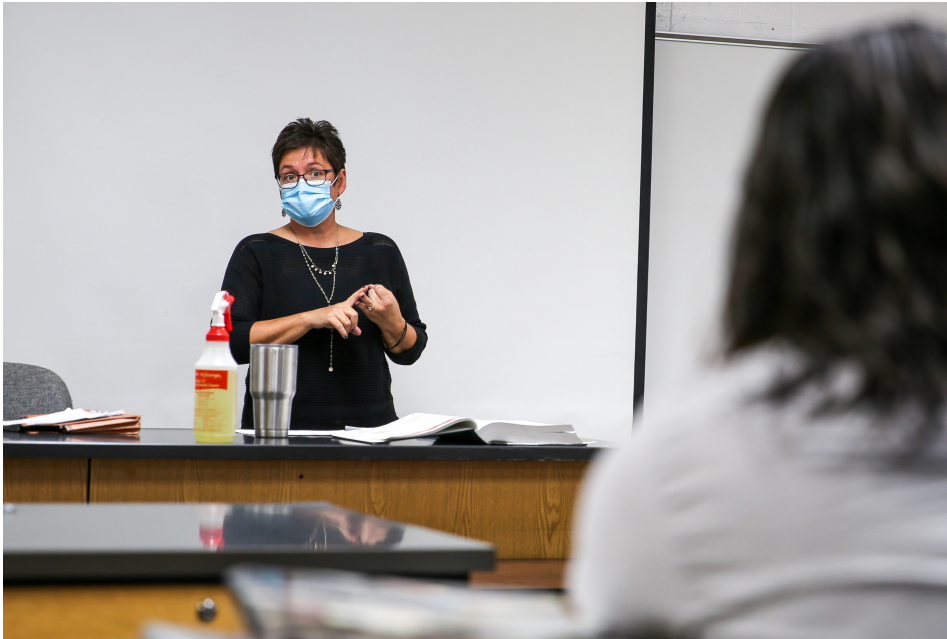
24 Midterm

30 College Closed



## QUANTITY AND QUALITY

instructor, and they are given 14 weeks to amend their course content. It takes months to complete the entire cycle,” said Debbie.



*Nixie Hnetkovsky teaching*

The intense and time consuming nature of this process makes it especially impressive that FCC has two courses certified by QM. This process requires dedicated instructors who have a strong desire to provide high-quality education to their students. The extra time given by Linda Monge and Nixie Hnetkovsky, whose Biology 101 course was QM certified last month, shows that they represent excellence in college instruction. The remaining online courses at FCC will follow the certified courses lead to ensure that the college’s online class offerings are of the highest quality.

## NEW TEST NOW AVAILABLE AT FCC

The Testing Center at FCC’s Learning Resource Center is now offering ParaPro Testing by ETS. This test is for individuals who desire to become a paraprofessional at a public school system. FCC’s approval by ETS, makes it the only Illinois testing center south of Peoria able to offer ParaPro Testing. Robert Tennyson, Library Assistant, is excited for the opportunity to provide a more localized testing option, saying, “(We) are pleased to offer this service to support our local school systems.”

The ETS test adds to the already long list of test providers available at the LRC facility, including Pearson Vue, ACT, Accuplacer, and Prometric. Each new addition of testing services allows the FCC campus to be exposed to a new demographic of learners. The full offerings of the testing center can be viewed on the IECC Website.



*The inside of the Testing Center at FCC.*

## CRANE LANDS ON CAMPUS

If you visited FCC's campus early in March, you might have noticed a crane on campus. This towering presence was not there to construct a new high-rise. Instead, it was to install two new Mammoth HVAC units, one for Cox Hall and one for Mason Hall. These units are massive, together they filled an entire full-sized semi-truck bed and each unit weighed in at over 8,500 LBS. Installation went smoothly with only minor hiccups. Both buildings' new HVAC systems are now fully installed and ready to go for the upcoming summer heat.



*Crane unloading new Mammoth HVAC Unit*

## B&I UPDATES

The following updates are from Sharmila Kakac, Dean, B & I Training.

### **Small Business Development**

As of March 1, our Small Business Development office is up and running. SBDC's offer resources, consulting and training to help assist local entrepreneurs. The SBDC office is located in the Elizabeth Clemence Cox Building. We have a part-time consultant on staff who is currently training. She has already met and signed up new clients for the Center. We are planning an open house for April 28th. This Center is a collaboration with Southeastern Illinois College.

## TITLE III UPDATES

The following updates are from the Title III Project Director, Carol Dreith.

A new truss system has now been installed in the faculty recording studio. Additional lighting will be added in the coming weeks to facilitate group recordings as well as technology designed to enhance student learning.

The Title III team with the support of FCC/District administration is working to establish a remote classroom

in the new MLT lab located in Mason Hall Room 21. The remote classroom will allow for students enrolled in the MLT program as part of the partnership with Kaskaskia College to minimize physical presence on the FCC campus. FCC representatives will participate with representatives from Kaskaskia in a high school career day on Friday, April 1, 2022 to promote the MLT program.

On March 1, 2022, the United States Department of Education granted approval for Frontier to convert the Certified Medical Assistant (CMA) program to hybrid delivery for Fall 2022. This summer, Title III staff will work with CMA instructor Jodi Peach to convert the courses in accordance with Quality Matters guidelines.



*Education Technology Specialist, Derek Dunn, hanging lights.*