

[ professional organization ]



## A Place for Everything and Everything in its Place

clut-ter [kluht-er]

– verb – to fill or litter in a disorderly manner

– noun – a disorderly heap; a state or condition of confusion

When did my pile of mail become a mountain? Where did that bicycle pump go? Have you seen my keys? Where is that phone number? Does anyone have a pen? It's all too familiar, but what many don't realize is that it doesn't have to be the norm! You don't have to accept CLUTTER and DISORGANIZATION, you can do something about it.

If you could spend 12 weeks in a year doing anything you wanted to do – what would you do? Vacation? Play with the kids? Finish those photo albums? Visit with family or friends? According to a 2004 *Newsweek* article, the average American spends 55 minutes each day – roughly 12 weeks per year – looking for things they know they own, but can't find. Imagine having that time back ...

Organizing yourself is more than being neat and tidy, but having a space that is functional. Whether at home or at work, the time and investment needed to reorganize is nominal to get those 12 weeks back! If you can relate to any of these things, a few nights at Harper College may be just the thing for you. A very unique experience taught by Clare Mantelman of Organize Now Inc. is in the latest course offering at Harper College's Palatine campus: a Professional Organization CE Certificate. In today's world, where home storage products equate to a \$4.36 billion industry, there are plenty of folks riding the wave of this opportunity. The interior designer who wants to create functionality and beauty. The mom who wants to bring sanity to all her kids' stuff. The guy who wants out of the corporate rat race to start his own business.

Imagine the feeling of a day free from additional self-inflicted stress ... choosing what to wear from your closet without the need of a machete to fight through the jungle of things never worn. Grabbing your keys and cell phone as you walk out the door 15 minutes early. Sitting down to your desk with files on your right, phone on your left and a lunch hour when you actually ... brace yourself ... eat lunch. To some this sounds like fantasy, but to an increasing number of people it is a reality if you learn the right steps. And Harper is the place to go.

## Do You Have What it Takes to be a Professional Organizer?

- Do you find yourself helping friends and family members de-clutter and organize?
- Do you know where everything is in your home or office?
- Can you easily identify organizational problems in other people's homes?
- Do you enjoy working with and helping people?
- Are you a good listener?
- Do you look through organizing sections of stores or magazines?
- Do you really enjoy organizing spaces?

If you answered "yes" to even a few of these, you may have what it takes to get yourself organized and maybe even start your own business helping others organize. Check out Harper's Professional Organization class.

Clare Mantelman  
CE Instructor