Hey Huskies!

Right now you're heading into the final stretch of your first semester at NIU! Exciting! Some awesome things have happened around you in the past couple of months, but now it's time to get down to business. Tie up the loose ends in your classes, register for next semester and study hard; you'll be happy you did. Throughout this newsletter, you can find various study tips at the bottom of each page to help you head into your first college final with positivity and confidence. This may seem a bit overwhelming, but don't worry! There are still plenty of things around NIU that can keep balance in your life. Stay organized, stay involved and study like a Huskie! Before we part for a little over a month, First- and Second-Year Experience would like to wish you the best of luck with final exams and a wonderful winter break!
Finish Strong!

Dates to Remember

Class Registration
Begins Nov. 6

Thanksgiving Break
Nov. 22-26

Final Exams
Dec. 11-16

Winter Break
Dec. 17-Jan. 16

Use Your Resources—Get Help for Finals!

Talk to Professors
Your professor has office hours for a reason— they want to help! Go chat with them if you are having a hard time or if you have questions over the material. They can offer you helpful tips and support. Go now rather than the week before the test!

University Writing Center
Appointments may be made on the University Writing Center website.
- Stevenson South: By appointment.
- McMurry 106: Walk-in sessions and workshops.
- Founders Memorial Library: Walk-in sessions.

Study Groups
Sometimes the best resources are your peers around you. You’re not the only one in the class who may be struggling, so get to know other students and help each other! Try to ask a few people around you if they’d like to study together, or you can ask your professor to make an announcement for students interested in forming a study group to meet after class.

Tutoring Centers
A free way to help you get the grade you want in that difficult class! Check out ACCESS Tutoring.
Advice from Fellow Huskies

“Start studying early! Start creating flash cards about new concepts and new terms after every class; this will allow you to study your course material gradually over time and help prevent you from getting overwhelmed.” — Carissa H.

“Prioritize which classes are going to need more studying than others. For example, if you have a calculus course and a philosophy course, calculus might require more studying than the philosophy course. By prioritizing which classes are more intensive, you alleviate studying too much for one course and not studying enough for the other. Work smarter not harder!” — Jyairee W.

“Listen to classical music while studying! It sounds corny, but music like Mozart, Beethoven and Bach has been proven to help with focus and memory retention. Also, create a fun playlist to just jam out to during breaks to help boost your mood and energy.” — Nikole T.

“The night before your exam, make sure to have everything you need already packed in your bag, so that you can wake up prepared. Try to spend your morning studying over breakfast, rather than stressing yourself out by trying to cram as you sit on the floor in front of your classroom door. Calming your nerves in the smallest ways can help tremendously.” — Miguel D.

“Your main priority is to do the best you can in school, study as much as you can and make sure to strive for the best grade possible. However, don’t forget that your number one priority should be to take care of yourself. Whether you go take a walk, work out at the rec, take a yoga class, watch a show or movie or just hang out with your friends for a little while, make sure you take time out of each day for yourself.” — Anitia D.

Study Tips

Start early
It is never too early to start studying for a final exam. Take cramming off your to-do list and get down to business!

Create your own study guide
Split the material into chunks so you can break it up and get through one section at a time; this can help you keep track of what you’ve accomplished and keep the end goal in mind!

Take breaks while studying, and try not to cram
Reward the amount of time you’re studying by taking a rest. Tired studying is not productive studying!

Create a study schedule: follow it!
By making a plan for how you will study, you can feel better about studying because you know you have the time.

Study for the style of exam
Not all exams are set up the same way: don’t study the same way. Study for the test you are taking, not the test you want to take.

Study things not on study guide
Study guides may be suggestions for what may be on the test, but aren’t always thorough. Complete study guides and fill in the blanks with more information.
First- and Second-Year Success Series (FSYSS) Events

JobsPLUS Event: Handling Conflict
Thursday, Nov. 2, 3:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.
Holmes Student Center, Heritage Room

Leadership 101
Monday, Nov. 6, 1 p.m.
Campus Life Building, Room 100

JobsPLUS Event: Leaders as Runners
Wednesday, Nov. 29, 4:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.
NIU Convocation Center

Veteran’s Job Fair
Wednesday, Nov. 8, 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Holmes Student Center, Capitol Room

Facts & Snacks Workshop: Internships and Your Future
Tuesday, Nov. 7, 11 a.m.
Campus Life Building, Room 100

Facts & Snacks Workshop: Preparing for Finals and Wrapping Up a Semester
Tuesday, December 5, 11:00 a.m.
Campus Life Building, Room 100

Standing on One Leg: What Canadian Geese and Leaders Have in Common
Wednesday, Nov. 8, Noon & 3 p.m.
Campus Life Building, Room 100

Facts & Snacks Workshop: What Does Involvement Look Like on Campus?
Tuesday, Nov. 28, 11 a.m.
Campus Life Building, Room 100

NIU Leadership Week 2017

Student Involvement and Leadership Development is hosting Leadership Week this November. Please join us between Monday, Nov. 6 and Saturday, Nov. 11 for Leadership Week events. These events incorporate several different topics to help further develop your overall leadership skills. See the SILD webpage for more information. The annual NIU Lead Summit is on Saturday, Nov. 11 and is the culminating program of Leadership Week. The Summit is NIU’s premier student leadership conference. Registration for the Summit closes Tuesday, Nov. 7. Register now for this unique opportunity to learn new leadership techniques, hear from our Keynote Speaker Andy Stoll, attend leadership panel discussions and select specific sessions to meet your needs.

For more information, please contact Alex Pitner by email or at 815-753-6505.
Resources

Campus Dining Centers: Healthy Paw

Are you feeling sluggish after eating the same foods over and over again in the dining centers? Switch it up! Check out MyPaw, the Huskie plan to eating balanced meals while in the dining centers. MyPaw divides your meal up into the essential groups: fruits, vegetables, grains, dairy and protein. Use NIU MyDining to find out what is on the menu, what are the ingredients and what options fit into your specific diet! Check out Nutrition and Wellness on the NIU Campus Dining Services website to find out more about how to be a healthy Huskie!

Huskie Food Pantry

The Huskie Food Pantry provides free food to NIU students who have found themselves in a circumstance where access to healthy food, or food in general, is inconsistent. Their motto, “Take what you need.” To be eligible to use the Huskie Food Pantry, you must be an NIU student without an NIU meal plan. All students must bring their NIU OneCard. Visit the Huskie Food Pantry website for more information. The Huskie Food Pantry is open every Thursday from 5:30-7:30 p.m. Chick Evans Fieldhouse.

Huskie Hack

Northern Illinois University recognizes that the future health and well-being of our region depends upon the focus and skill sets developed by our students of today and those of tomorrow. Integrated and collaborative interdisciplinary events such as Huskie Hack provide opportunities for peer-to-peer learning while addressing real problems from a 360-degree perspective.

For 24 hours, student hackers and medical experts will explore solution finding to current and future challenges in health and wellness. At the end of the event, they will have the opportunity to present their solutions to regional judges and experts in healthcare innovation.

In order to participate in the Huskie Hack event you will need to register. If you have any questions, contact Tracy Rogers-Tryba.

Questions? Contact tlrogers@niu.edu

To request disability-related accommodations, please contact the Disability Resource Center at 753-1303 as early as possible. Advance notice is appreciated.

FOR HEALTH AND WELLNESS

November 4-5, 2017
Northern Illinois University, Holmes Student Center
24+ continuous hours of creativity and innovation

Students of all disciplines are encouraged to join the fun at this year's Huskie Hack!

• 24+ hour team based activities.
• All disciplines and skill levels welcomed.
• Develop solutions to real-world health and wellness problems.
• No coding experience required.
• Free food and prizes!

Sign up to participate at huskiehack.org
*Students under 18 require a signed permission slip

Questions? Contact tlrogers@niu.edu

To request disability-related accommodations, please contact the Disability Resource Center at 753-1303 as early as possible. Advance notice is appreciated.
Be a Leader!

Apply to be part of our Orientation Team! Orientation and Family Connections is looking for motivated students who want to serve as 2018 Orientation Leaders or Orientation Program Interns. Both positions will allow you to gain significant leadership skills, develop your communication skills, meet incoming new students and represent NIU. Plus, both positions offer a $2,000 stipend!

In order to apply, you’ll have to attend an Orientation Leader/Orientation Program Intern 101 Session in order for us to accept your application. You can turn in your application first but make sure you also attend a 101 Session. 101 Sessions are about 40 minutes where we’ll share with you everything you need to know about being an Orientation Leader or Orientation Program Intern. We’ll discuss the benefits of the position and what you can expect throughout the selection process. You’ll meet some former Orientation Leaders/Orientation Program Interns and get all of your questions answered.

101 Sessions:
• Thursday, Nov. 15 at 5 p.m.
  o DuSable Hall, Room 206
• Thursday, Nov. 28 at 6:30 p.m.
  o Holmes Student Center, Regency Room (main level)

Visit the OFC website for more information and to apply. Your application is due on Friday, Dec. 1 by midnight. If you have any questions please feel free to email us or call 815 753-1535. We look forward to seeing you soon!

Protest Banner Lending Library Workshop

The Pick Museum of Anthropology in Cole Hall invites you to a Protest Banner Workshop at 4 p.m. on Nov. 8. Chicago-based textile artist Aram Han Sifuentes will teach students how to make fabric protest banner designed to be carried at demonstrations. Aram's technique is designed for beginners with little to no previous sewing experience. This event is free and all are welcome! This program coincides with the Pick Museum's newest exhibition, “Quilts and Human Rights,” which is open now through Saturday, Feb. 24, 2018. Originally curated at the Michigan State University Museum, “Quilts and Human Rights” features quilts from around the world that honor champions of human rights and document quiltmaking as a means of coping with oppression. It also examines how quilts raise awareness of global social issues.

Twenty-eight of the quilts in the exhibit come from the Michigan State University Museum’s traveling exhibit. Pick Museum staff has expanded the exhibit by adding 15 additional quilts made between 2008 and today, to highlight the last decade’s booming modern quilting movement as well as to bring the exhibit’s topics and themes up to the present day. For more information, visit the Pick Museum website.
Welcome and welcome back to NIU. We’re glad that you are here. The Student Conduct office, located in the Campus Life Building, is responsible for educating the campus community on institutional policies and regulations. Check out the NIU Student Code of Conduct, to view the expectations of the campus community.

Are you looking to get involved at NIU? Join the NIU Student Conduct Board. All students are welcome to join, as long as you have a 2.0 GPA. New freshmen are allowed to join, even if you do not have a GPA value yet. Find the online application on our website.

If you have any questions about institutional rules or expectations, please contact our office at 815-753-1571 or by email.

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A Message from the Students’ Legal Service

- If you are under 21 years of age, don’t plead guilty to any traffic ticket without talking to a lawyer.
- Getting a drinking ticket will result in your driver’s license being suspended, even if you are given court supervision and even if you are charged under a local ordinance rather than the Illinois Liquor Control Act.
- Giving the police wrong information or presenting someone else’s driver’s license or identification card as your own is a crime.
- If you are driving a car in DeKalb and are arrested for any crime, including possession/consumption of alcohol, possession of cannabis or drug paraphernalia, or driving while your license is suspended, your car will be towed and you will have to pay $500 as an administrative fee, in addition to the towing and storage fee, to get your car back. If you fail to pay the fees, your car will be forfeited and you will still owe the fees and will still have the criminal charge to deal with.
- Stores in DeKalb, especially Walmart and Kohl’s, employ floor walkers and cameras to watch for customers attempting to steal merchandise. The stores are particularly alert to groups of college-age individuals who shop together. The stores also check for persons who don’t present all the items in their baskets at the self-check registers.
- Even minor alcohol or drug charges may prevent you from becoming a teacher, nurse or work in the medical or pharmaceutical industries.
- You should not resist the police, even if the police are arresting you by mistake.
- You do not have to consent to the police entering or searching your residence, whether that is your residence hall suite, apartment, condo or house. The police have a right to enter your abode if they have a search or arrest warrant, in the event of an emergency, or if you (or a member of your household) consent. Do not forcibly resist the police, but articulate you are not consenting to their entry/search. The legality of what the police do can be challenged later in court.
- You do not have to speak with the police. If you tell them you do not want to speak with them, they must stop asking you questions. They can, however, arrest you.
Huskies Get Connected!

Are you still looking for ways you can get involved on campus but don’t know where to start? Look no further! Huskies Get Connected (HGC) is a one-on-one consultation with an FSYE Student Success Team (SST) Member to help you discover ways to get connected that are personally meaningful to you! SST members are friendly, involved and successful undergraduate students who are trained to help you find your place on campus whether it be through:

- Involvement in student organization or clubs.
- Campus employment.
- Attending campus events.
- Mentorship opportunities.
- Service.
- Research opportunities.

Make a Huskies Get Connected appointment today by contacting the First- and Second-Year Experience office today!

Connect With Us!

Do you want to learn more about what is going on in our office and around the NIU community? Connect with us!

For office updates, “Takeover Tuesdays,” live event recordings and more: Follow us on Snapchat.

Like and follow us on Facebook.

First- and Second-Year Experience
Email: fsye@niu.edu
Call: 815-753-0028
Visit: Altgeld Hall, Room 100