Hey Huskies!

You’re almost finished with yet another semester at NIU! It’s time to finish up classes, study for finals, register for spring semester, and tie up any loose ends you have at the end of this semester. Don’t forget to keep a level-head through the end of this semester; study hard and remember to take time for yourself. You may be feeling overwhelmed, but you’ve got this. There are plenty of things around NIU that can keep balance in your life outside of studying for classes. 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](#).
Study Tips

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

2. Create your own study guide
   - Split the material into chunks that you can actually achieve: this can help you keep track of what you've accomplished and keep the end goal in mind.

3. 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!

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

5. Study for the style of exam
   - Not all exams are set up the same way: so you shouldn't study the same way. Study for the test you are taking, not the test you want to take.

6. Study things not on the study guide
   - Study guides may be suggestions for what may be on the test, but aren't always thorough. Complete study guides and then fill in the blanks with more information.
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.

“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.

“Involvement

As you are well into your second year at NIU, we hope that you have found ways to fill your experience with fun and exciting memories. We know that may not always be easy and you may be one of many who is struggling with the current climate of our country and world. Your challenge moving forward is to do something!

What can you do?
Community Service within Student Involvement & Leadership Development focuses on providing you with opportunities to connect to and make a difference in your community. Schedule time today to do something for your communiversity!

What can you say?
NIU is committed to freedom of expression and open discussion in all matters of public interest and is further committed to assuring all members of the University community have the broad latitude to speak, write, listen, challenge and learn. Take time to engage in meaningful dialogue with others.

How can you get involved?
There are several opportunities and ways to get involved on campus. The Student Association serves as the voice of the student body to the NIU administration. Take time to learn about the Student Association and mark your calendar to participate in officer elections spring semester!

This is YOUR experience and only YOU can make it personally meaningful. What does that mean to you and what are you going to do?
Leadership

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.**
  - DuSable Hall, Room 206
- **Thursday, Nov. 28 at 6:30 p.m.**
  - Holmes Student Center, Regency Room (main level)

Visit the [OFC website](http://www1.niu.edu) 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](mailto:info@niu.edu) or call 815 753-1535. We look forward to seeing you soon!

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**Kevin D. Knight Awards**

Student Involvement and Leadership Development will be opening the Kevin D. Knight awards starting November 27th, 2017 at 8:00 AM! These awards are to recognize the outstanding leaders throughout our campus. If you know of anyone you believe should apply, tell them to apply on Huskie Link. We have awards ranging from Freshman Leadership Awards to Graduate Leadership Awards and many more. The deadline to apply will be Feb. 12th, 2018 by 11:45 PM.

If you have any questions you can contact **Alex Pitner** by email or at 815-753-6505.

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Previous winners of the Kevin D. Knight Leadership Awards
A Message from Student Conduct

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.

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.
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 is, “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.
A Message from the Division of Student Affairs

We are here for you! As you enter your second year as a Huskie, your challenge is to continue to utilize campus resources and build relationships with your peers, faculty and staff. At one time or another, everyone feels stressed, depressed or anxious. Emotional support comes in a variety of shapes and sizes here at NIU. We care about you and value you as an essential member of the Huskie family. Where can you find support?

- Faculty members: Utilize their office hours. They are here to help you be successful in the classroom even when life seems to get in the way of your progress.
- NIU Staff: There are lots of staff members in offices across campus who care about you. Don’t hesitate to ask for help. The Division of Student Affairs is made up of staff who are dedicated to supporting you through your journey.
- Counseling and Consultation Services: They are here for you! Counseling and Consultation Services provide mental health support to all students. They are a team of trained professionals committed to helping you achieve your academic and personal goals.
- Student Association’s #NoShameCampaign, started in 2015, is aimed at destigmatizing mental health issues and to bring mental health awareness to light. Look for events in the semester ahead.

Your mental health is important to us and we are here to support you!
Mark Your Calendars! Sophomore Days of Service is coming!

Are you looking to find a sense of purpose in your second year through your coursework, relationships and out-of-class activities? Make a difference on campus and in the DeKalb community through a two to five hour, one-time volunteer experience during the spring semester. There will be events throughout the month of February for you to sign-up and volunteer! In the process, you’ll learn more about yourself and the communities around you. Each Sophomore Days of Service (SDoS) begins with a quick orientation to the agency or group served, and ends with a brief reflection about the experience.

Peer Educators (PE) are successful sophomore, junior and senior students who are interested in helping new students adapt to life at NIU. The prime responsibility of a PE is to help with either a UNIV 101 or UNIV 201 course which emphasizes the experiences and skills that are expected to help each student in his or her transition to NIU—including getting involved, setting goals, managing time, making healthy decisions and living in a multicultural community. They assist educators with planning course activities, facilitating class discussions and providing information to students on a peer level. PEs also serve as resources and models of success for students who may be uncertain about their ability to make this transition.

Would you like to become a Peer Educator? Come learn about the PE position and how you can make an impact with our first year students through mentoring in the UNIV 101/201 classroom!

Peer Educator Informational Session
- Thursday, November 30, 2017
  Stevenson Towers South Smart Classroom (175)  
  5 – 6 p.m.
- Monday, January 22, 2018
  Holmes Student Center Lincoln Room  
  5 – 9 p.m.
Contact 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.

Student Success Team Members posting to our Facebook and Snapchat

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