Hey there, second-year students! You're almost halfway done with your undergraduate degree! Only five more weeks, then you can say goodbye to your sophomore year and say hello to your third year at Northern Illinois University. In these first two years, you have overcome challenges and climbed to new heights in your education. You've learned to get involved on campus and learned to manage your time effectively to become a great NIU Huskie student.

Before the semester comes to end, remember those finals! Now that it's the beginning of April, finals exams are in sight and you should get your affairs in order. Start study sessions now, create flashcards and manage your time wisely so the beginning of May will be full of anticipation for summer and less stress. Take your mistakes from your first-semester examinations and turn them into lessons from which you can learn. You can do this!

As you look toward the next two years of college, do not forget your goals. Goals are designed to challenge you, but you do not have to face them alone. Remember that there are others there to help you along the way, no matter the struggle. Though you will not be a first- or second-year student, you can always use First- and Second-Year Experience as a resource. From being a peer mentor to a peer educator, you can always get involved with our office. First- and Second-Year Experience would like to extend our congratulations to you for making it halfway to graduation, and we wish you good luck for the rest of your college career!
Halfway There Event

Join us in celebrating your accomplishments!

Photo Booth, Free Food, Games, Music and Gifts!

Wednesday, April 18
MLK Commons
11 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Rain Location: HSC Promenade Lounge
On-Campus Events

Though the semester is coming to a close, it is important to continue your involvements. Sometimes getting involved is the perfect stress reliever and can help with studying for final exams. Try some of these events to help you out:

- **Free Weekly Bike Rides**
  Outdoor Adventures will be hosting free weekly bike rides again this spring. Come hang out with their staff, ride around town and meet some new people! If you don't have a bike, the Adventure Center will loan you a bike (first come, first served)
  Every Wednesday through May 2, 5 p.m.
  Meet at the Adventure Center!

- **Free Fitness Fridays**
  Sport Performance Yoga
  Student Recreation Center
  April 13, 4-5 p.m.

  Power Vinyasa Flow Yoga
  Student Recreation Center
  April 20, 4-5 p.m.

  POP Pilates
  Student Recreation Center
  April 27, 4-5 p.m.

Cheer on Your Huskies at Home

Looking for something to do on campus? Cheer on your Huskies at home! Click here for more information on Huskie Athletics.

**Men’s Baseball**
- vs. University of Illinois-Chicago
  April 10
- vs. Trinity Christian College
  April 11
- vs. Miami University
  April 21 and 22
- vs. Indiana State University
  April 24

**Women’s Softball**
- vs. Ball State
  April 11
- vs. University of Illinois-Chicago
  April 17
- vs. Western Michigan University
  April 27 and 28

**Women’s Tennis**
- vs. University of Akron
  April 8
- vs. Eastern Michigan University
  April 20

**Women’s Track and Field**
- vs. Huskie Classic
  May 4

**Men’s Tennis**
- vs. Toledo
  April 13
- vs. Buffalo
  April 20
What is NIU PLUS?

NIU PLUS is a collection of programs created to add on to the hard work you are already doing to make your future as bright as possible. Through our PLUS programs, your academic endeavors can become as unique as you are and set you apart from competitors in the workforce. Start thinking about your future now! Learn more about our PLUS programs.

EngagePLUS

EngagePLUS provides you with the opportunity to earn notations on your official transcripts for hands-on learning experiences you’ve completed while enrolled at NIU. EngagePLUS is used to set you apart from competition in the workforce. EngagePLUS allows you to take the concepts from the classroom and apply them into the real world.

There are 6 EngagePLUS categories:

- Artistry
- Career Related Work Experiences
- Experiential Learning
- Leadership
- Service Learning
- Undergraduate Research

Often times EngagePLUS is a supplement to the already amazing work you are doing. Why miss out on this opportunity when the process is only two small phases?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Phase One</th>
<th>Phase Two</th>
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<td>- Write a proposal.</td>
<td>- Submit a reflection within four weeks of the</td>
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<td>- Get proposal approval by your mentor or</td>
<td>end of the semester.</td>
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<td>supervisor or mentor.</td>
<td>- Your mentor or supervisor will</td>
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<td>approve or deny the reflection.</td>
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Look no further for a great opportunity to get acknowledged for the great work you do and achieve the Human Diversity Requirement. Learn more and start planning for your future now!
End of the Year Schedule

Classes End
May 3

Reading Day
May 4

Final Exams Begin
May 5-May 11

Find out what date and time your exams are held on the NIU final exam schedule.

Residence Hall Announcements

Residence Halls close Saturday, May 13 at 10 a.m.

Residents are required to check out 24 hours after their last final unless graduating. Residents need to make an appointment with their Community Advisor to checkout. No student may stay past 5 p.m. without a summer contract.

Are you planning to stay in DeKalb for the summer? We have easy summer 2018 housing options for you, with no long-term lease! You can stay in the fully air conditioned New Hall East residence hall for the summer 2018 session classes, or you can stay in the residence halls for the entire summer if you will have a room for fall 2018. We have meal options for you, too. Explore your summer housing options. You can complete a summer contract online, then come into the Residential Administration Office in East Neptune 101 anytime between 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, beginning in mid-April to choose your cool, summer room!

Housing and Residential Services is committed to providing a safe, supportive and educationally empowering community where you can learn, grow and be successful within a complex and diverse world. Through their facilities, programs and the collaborative efforts of their staff, student leaders and campus partners, they promote respect, individuality and personal responsibility.
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