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Advising *connection*

AN ADVISEMENT NEWSLETTER
FOR UNDERGRADUATES

Are you too busy for class, afraid to ask for help, and your grades are slipping? A Georgia State student shares a true story about her struggles in:

Raising the Academic Bar

Anonymous Female Undergraduate Student— Georgia State University

Upon admission to Georgia State University, I had intentions of becoming involved in many school activities and establishing an important place on campus. I became heavily involved with four student organizations, and held office in three of them. I also worked full time during the year. Not surprisingly, my grades began to fall, and yet I thought nothing of it. At that time, I truly believed with each passing semester that I could successfully juggle school with extracurricular activities. I was tireless and dependable, and everyone told me so. My arrogance and thoughtlessness continued to deceive me and soon I found myself on a path that led to academic exclusion.

Georgia State has many wonderful advisors working with their students to assist and guide them, but this is never more obvious than when they are working with students on academic warning, supervision, and probation. My advisor cautioned me about my activities and time management problems. He informed me that I would risk academic exclusion if things did not change. I did not believe him. Ex-

pulsion was for fraternity guys who drank all the time and never went to school. I was hard-working and at school everyday; sometimes I was there later than most others. There was time to do well next semester, there would always be time, right? I was so unbelievably wrong, misguided and immature. I was not prepared for what would soon be the worst day of my life; I was put on academic probation. I remember crying hysterically realizing the many people I had failed. Worst of all, I had failed myself. I neglected and forgot my responsibilities to my education.

I took one year off from taking classes and I used that time to reflect upon what I would have done differently. I realized how many people would have been there for me if I had simply asked for help. I also reflected on how I put my participation in clubs and activities before my academics. I hated recognizing I had violated my parent's trust as their voices echoed in my head, "How's school going?" If only I had told them or others



Although the picture exaggerates a busy student on the go, many students can relate with falling behind in school when trying to balance multiple activities, jobs, or commitments.

sooner.

With help from my academic adviser, I assessed my situation and learned what it was going to take to graduate. I resumed my studies, with limitations, on academic probation. This was my final chance to prove to everyone that I was worthy of a degree.

CONTINUE →

Hi! My name is...

Charmayne Richardson, Academic Adviser—Student Advisement Center

Since we are several weeks into the fall semester I want you to do something for me. Write down the names of all your instructors. If you are uncertain how to spell each name, say the names out loud. Are you silent because you are thinking or because you don't know?

In college you will encounter many things you may have never thought about before that will now require your attention. Have you ever considered the importance of having a good relationship with your instructor?

Learning the names of your instructors is the first step in making a strong relationship with them. Instructors put their names in the syllabus, on the board, or wear name tags because they want you to know who they are. Additionally, it is important to make contact with the professor outside of the classroom to give them an opportunity to

learn more about you. Maintaining a good relationship with your instructors will allow you to obtain a letter of recommendation for graduate school or employment, allow more opportunities to discuss your course progress, or learn about unique opportunities or internships related to your degree program.

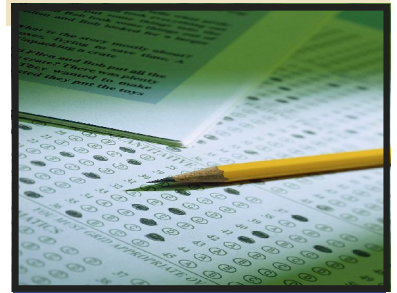


In addition to simply learning names and saying hello it is important to demonstrate to your instructors that you are hard working, diligent, and studious. Do so by attending every class, be on time, sit in the front, participate in classroom discussion, and

by meeting every deadline. You want your instructors to know your name, your knowledge of the course, your sense of responsibility, and your character. Start a new relationship with your instructors today by learning their names and introducing yourself.

DID YOU KNOW?

CLEP EXAM



The College Level Examination Program (or CLEP) is a series of tests offered by the College Board and available here at Georgia State in the Testing Center (Room 309, Counseling Center) that allows students to earn college level credit for selected courses by examination.

CLEP tests are multiple-choice exams which are scored on a scale from 20 to 80. Georgia State will award course credit for scores of 50 or higher. On foreign language tests, your score will determine the amount of credit granted. Most exams are \$80. For more information, contact your academic adviser or visit www.gsu.edu/testing.

Spotlight



Pouncin' Around Online Calendar

Feeling disconnected? Wondering what to do with your time? Want to get involved in on campus activities? Looking for ways to get involved at Georgia State University?

Pouncin' Around is a fun, interactive, free, easy way to find out about on campus opportunities and stay connected to Georgia State University. The Pouncin' Around online calendar provides students with a way to get involved in various upcoming events around campus.

This new calendar is convenient and easy to use! Visit the calendar online at <http://www.gsu.edu/pouncinaround>



Georgia State University

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Since I resumed my studies after taking a year off, I have earned straight A's every semester. Each semester, I meet with my professors outside of class so we can learn more about one another. I never miss class and I do all of the assigned readings. I diligently study for each exam and also make note cards. It is surprisingly easy to achieve A's following this model. I encourage any students reading my story to meet weekly/bi-weekly with not only your advisors, but your professors as well. Let them learn your name and demonstrate that you are willing to work hard in their class. Professors want to assist their students, especially those who want to succeed. A's and B's are possible for those who are willing to work for them.

"FAILURE IS INSTRUCTIVE. THE PERSON WHO REALLY THINKS LEARNS QUITE AS MUCH FROM HIS FAILURES AS FROM HIS SUCCESSES."

- JOHN DEWEY

THE ADVISING CONNECTION An Advisement Newsletter For Undergraduates

To make comments, suggestions, & contributions, contact the Student Advisement Center.
255 Sparks Hall, 404-463-9500

IMPORTANT DATES

October 9th, 06
Spring 2007 courses on the web

October 16th, 06
Full semester midpoints

October 23rd, 06 — Jan 6, 07
Spring 2007 registration

October 30th, 31st & Nov 1, 06
Regents' Test offered
Register at www.gsu.edu/testing

November 21-25th, 06
Thanksgiving Holidays. University Closed. No Classes.

December 8th, 06
Last day of full semester classes

December 25-29th, 06
Winter Holidays. University Closed.

January 6th, 07
Spring 2007 tuition and fees due by 5pm

January 8-12th, 07
Late registration for Spring 2007 classes — \$50.00 Late Fee

January 12th, 07
Late registration tuition & fees due by 5pm