

ASAP Newsletter

End of the Semester Checklist

May 2008

ASAP Hours

Monday: 8:30 am– 5:00 pm

Tuesday: 8:30 am– 5:00 pm

Wednesday: 8:30 am– 5:00 pm

Thursday: 8:30 am– 5:00 pm

Friday: 8:30 am– 4:30 pm



Dates to Remember

May 16: Graduate Commencement Ceremonies

May 17: Undergraduate Commencement Ceremonies

I have never let my schooling interfere with my education.



Mark Twain

The semester has ended, finals are nearly over, and soon you'll be back home. Even though the summer is a time to recharge from your studies, you can still use it to get ahead for next semester. The question is: how can you get a jump-start on work and plan for next semester?

To help you get started, here's a checklist of basic tasks you can do over the summer. Check off not only what you have already done, but feel free to add any forgotten items to make it more personalized.

It's also a good idea to talk to the professors you will have next semester and collect information about each of their courses (i.e., get their syllabi, textbook information and supplemental reading lists) before you leave campus.

When you return home, do the following:

- Spend some time answering the question, "Why am I going to college?"
- Imagine your ideal college experience.
 - * If you're not happy with your current college experience, what can you do to make it more ideal?
- Reflect on what you did well and what changes you should make.
- When you get your grades, examine which courses you excelled in and which courses gave you difficulty.
 - * Why did you excel in certain courses? Was it just because the material was easy for you? Or was it the way you approached the material?
- Ask yourself if you are in the right major.

- As you review next semester's list of courses, make a tentative time management schedule to get your academic, social and work life in order before the next semester begins.

* Set clear goals for each class

* Triage the courses for which you will need extra time.

* Reclaim time wasted last semester: time you either didn't get anything accomplished or time you can't remember enjoying yourself.

- Think about which clubs and organizations you want to join or are in. Make sure they add something to your career goals and personal interests.

- Decide if you want to establish an internship, study abroad or get a part-time job in a field related to your career.

- Analyze your current roommate situation. Does this person add something favorable to your life, goals, interests, values? Or does (s)he make your life miserable? If the latter is true, first confront the reasons and make a room contract; if all else fails, change roommates for next semester.

- Start a credentials file in the Career Services office.

- When you return, make a real effort to ask professors to write letters of recommendations for you to place in your credentials file.

- Plan to take advantage of the help available at ASAP: writing assistance, study skills, test taking tips, and math tutoring.