



POKE NOTES

Spring Semester 2020 Registration, Holiday Breaks & Surviving Finals!

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November and December are very busy months for students—you are meeting with academic advising and selecting classes for next semester, preparing for holiday breaks and navigating finals.

In this issue you will find some information and resources to help you through November and December—as always, you can access Poke Notes on the [LeaRN First Generation page](#).

Academic Advising & Registration

Registration for Spring Semester 2020 classes has begun—but it’s not too late to log onto your WyoWeb “Students” account and register today!

Be sure to consult with your academic advisor to discuss course offerings, your schedule, required courses, and more! [Visit the ACES site for more information.](#)

Satisfactory Academic Progress—things to know!

Three measures:

GPA, Percentage and Pace.

For more information visit with academic advising, UW financial aid or check out the link here: [Satisfactory Academic Progress](#).



Maximize your holiday break:

- Personal Care: yoga or any type of physical activity & relaxation
- Family Time: family can be relatives or friends, spend some quality time with people that make you happy (if you are separated from family or friends, spend some time writing them notes or giving them a call), breaks can also be a great opportunity to make some new friends
- Professional Development: spruce up your resume or get a part-time job or internship
- Academic: if you are between the Thanksgiving and Winter Break, take some time to prepare yourself for finals; if you are on Winter Break use this time to plan for next semester (set your schedule, review syllabi if they are already available or go ahead and start reading some of your course material for next semester)
- Have Fun: this is your opportunity to rejuvenate yourself for the upcoming semester so be sure to have fun as well

Coe Library Resources



If you have not visited Coe Library yet—make today your day to go to the library. There is an abundance of resources available to you at our library: computers, study spaces, the One Button Room (for video and audio recordings), Student Innovation Center, the Writing Center, STEP Tutoring, and more! You can ask a librarian for help and guidance along the way. [To start your journey check out the Coe Library website here.](#)

ROCK YOUR FINALS
A How-To Guide
Close the Wikipedia page and step away from the energy drink - try this instead.

PUT THE ALL-NIGHTER TO BED

Active learning is key Use flashcards, then switch to a concept map or a matrix.	Study right before sleep or exercise It allows you to step back and see your subject in context.	Don't go out the night before an exam Never underestimate the power of sleep and a clear mind.	Don't miss your exam Double check the date, time and location. Then check your alarm.	Do more than memorize Know how isolated concepts fit into the big picture.
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In addition to the ones noted on the image above

- Form a Study Group of 4-5 People
- Administer Self-Tests
- Consider Your Study Location
- Don't Cram!
- Ask For Help When You Need It

Image and tips included above property of College of Charleston Center for Student Learning (www.cofc.edu) - for entire page and information please visit: <https://today.cofc.edu/2013/12/04/10-tips-to-rock-your-finals/>



Remember to practice self-care and ask for help during finals week!

Tips for Final Papers

Drafted by Nathaniel James Thesing, UW Writing Center

- Read your paper aloud to yourself, friends, or family – you can catch a lot of grammar and run-on sentence concerns doing this! You will also be able to see if your organization is sound.
- Avoid filler words in your final draft – examples: there are, there is, there were, it is, it was – by avoiding these words your final draft will gain clarity
- Eliminate wordiness overall – can you say what you mean with fewer words? If the answer is yes, trim you sentences down. Your first draft will be messy and unorganized, just get your ideas down on paper. As you revise, keep eliminating repetitive or unnecessary words.
- Proofread your final draft before submitting it (reading aloud again might be helpful here). Spending 15 minutes re-reading your writing may help you find any last minute errors. By being deliberate when you read each word, you may find areas with missing words and sentence structure issues. This could ease your mind after submission because you know you took the time to address easy fixes in your writing.
- Schedule a time to meet with your instructor or the UW Writing Center to clarify any questions or concerns you have before the paper is actually due. These resources are on campus to specifically help you with your writing process, utilize them. Visit [Purdue OWL](#), [UNC Writing Center Tips and Tools](#), or any other writing resource online to help you better understand any of your writing concerns. If you are unsure how to navigate these websites, ask one your instructors, a friend, or the library how these online writing resources can help you.