

Professional Development Workshops
Fall 2012

TRANSITIONING TO THE AMERICAN UNIVERSITY

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Introduction

- ❖ Introductions
- ❖ Share your concerns

Advisor

- ❖ Feel comfortable asking your faculty advisor/coordinator for help.
- ❖ This person will schedule your classes and help you plan your studies.
- ❖ Be in touch with this person, email him/her with questions, etc.
- ❖ Check your department's website for information on plan of study, course catalog, assistantships and internships.

Advisor and Plan of Study

- ❖ Remember to find the deadline to turn it in
- ❖ Departmental List Serves
- ❖ Graduate Studies Division List Serve

Classes

- ❖ Always attend classes.
- ❖ It is not only **encouraged** but expected of students to ask questions during lectures.
- ❖ Make sure to participate in class discussions.
- ❖ Don't be late for your classes.

Classroom Political Correctness

- ❖ Be respectful towards other students and their opinions
- ❖ Watch your language in the classroom setting – your opinion is valuable, but do not offend others
- ❖ Sometimes *intonation* makes a difference.
- ❖ In your written assignments also make sure to be politically correct.

Blackboard Learn

- ❖ Become familiar with Blackboard Learn.
- ❖ Professors use this space to post your grades, post lectures and other materials.
- ❖ Make sure to participate in online discussions or blogs.

Campus Resources

- ❖ The Ohio Link – the KSU library can order books for you from other universities.
- ❖ Used vs. New Books, rent a book, etc.
- ❖ Career Services
- ❖ IT Services
- ❖ Transportation Services
- ❖ Counseling Services
- ❖ Computer Labs
- ❖ Legal Services
- ❖ Less Expensive MS Office for students

Academic Honesty

- ❖ Cheating is not accepted in any form! It is also negatively perceived by both professors AND other students
- ❖ Professors often provide study guides that help students prepare for exams.
- ❖ Review the plagiarism policy.
- ❖ Use proper citation required by your Professors such as APA, MLA and Chicago.
- ❖ Personalize Research Consultations (PERC) are available in the KSU library.
- ❖ Make sure to cite your previous work

Communication

- ❖ Feel free to talk to your professors after class.
- ❖ Professors wait for students during their office hours.
- ❖ It is acceptable and encouraged to email professors with questions.
- ❖ Professors often tell their graduate students to refer to them by name.

Tutoring

- ❖ If you are struggling with class material you should contact your professor sooner rather than later.
- ❖ You may want to look for tutoring centers such as: math lab, writing center, etc.
- ❖ Don't hesitate to ask your classmates for help.
- ❖ Form study groups if necessary.

Testing

- ❖ Exam vs. Test
- ❖ Study Guide
- ❖ Essay vs. Multiple Choice vs. Fill in the Blank
- ❖ Quiz
- ❖ Assignments
- ❖ Reflection Paper
- ❖ Final Paper
- ❖ Participation
- ❖ Blogs

Free Time

- ❖ Check out the student organizations – you may find one that you will be interested in joining – it is a great way to find new friends
- ❖ Graduate Student Senate (Gradfest, ect)
- ❖ Rec Center – it is free and a lot of fun! They offer classes such as: Yoga, Pilates, etc.
- ❖ Community: parks, kayaking, canoeing, etc.
- ❖ The university organizes a variety of events, activities for students free of charge.

Graduate Student Senate

- ❖ Monthly Meetings
- ❖ Gradfest – monthly – free pizza event 😊
- ❖ **Graduate Research Symposium**
– **April 19th**
- ❖ Grants and Awards available for graduate students

Friends

- ❖ Our advice: find a friend (roommate, classmate) who is American or has been in the US for a longer period of time.
- ❖ In case of any questions, concerns, you should be comfortable asking this person for help.
- ❖ Always keep his/hers number with you.
- ❖ Conversation Partners
- ❖ Peer Mentor (EHHS)

Stores In Our Community

- ❖ Grocery Stores offer some international foods
- ❖ Home Market – they can order food for you
- ❖ Acme, Save a Lot, Wal-Mart, Aldi
- ❖ CVS, Walgreen's, Drugmart

Questions?

Thank you.