



THE ROAD TO ACADEMIC SUCCESS

**2012-2013
Academic Success
Workshops**

**Presented by:
The Peer Academic Mentors &
The Center for Academic Success**

Orientation Workshops

The workshops offered during Orientation Week are designed specifically for new students. These workshops are a product of the combination of the first-hand student experience of the Peer Academic Mentors and the academic training, expertise, and knowledge of the members of the Center for Academic Success.

Your Perfect Schedule: Time Management for the SU Student

Monday, August 20 / Brown Cody Lounge / 3:30 - 4:40pm

Pirate Training is almost over and you already feel busy? You're not alone, and there's only going to be more fun things to do during your career as a student here. Come get some free food and learn some proven skills for time management from your Peer Academic Mentors—who've already done this before—and get ready to make the most of everything Southwestern has to offer.

“Departmental Interest Meeting: Exploring”

Tuesday, August 21 / Olin 322 / 1:30-2:30pm, 2:30 - 3:30pm

The Departmental Interest Meetings are offered to those in all areas of study, including those who have not yet chosen one particular area. This workshop is an informal roundtable discussion between all interested new students and the seven Peer Academic Mentors. Take advantage of a valuable opportunity to hear about the advantages and disadvantages of exploring majors, to learn about the process of making a decision, and to ask any questions about being in an exploring phase.

Why Are You Here? Setting Goals and Making Them Happen

Tuesday, August 21 / Bishops Lounge / 5:00 – 6:00 pm

Don't worry everyone, you made it to college: the hard part is over. But what do you want to do next? Come sit down with the Peer Mentors and start setting some goals. Then, we'll talk about developing some skills for success in and out of the classroom to achieve those goals, even personalizing them based off your personality type and what you want to accomplish! This is a great way to build a foundation for your Southwestern career that you won't want to miss!

Lunch with the Peer Mentors

(Transfer students only)

Wednesday, August 22 / Dan Rather Room / Noon – 1:00pm

Welcome to Southwestern! Although you have already been through your first year (or more) of college and probably know what to expect, you have not had the chance to become familiar with Southwestern. Take advantage of an opportunity to ask questions of your peers who have spent some time here in order to help you learn your way around

First Lecture Series: Top 10 Things You Should Know

(Peer Academic Mentors from the Center for Academic Success)

Wednesday, August 22 / Brown-Cody Lobby / 7:00 – 8:00pm

Do you have a million questions in your head and don't know who to ask? You just got to college, so of course you do! Come get all your questions (from social life to academic life) answered in one place by upperclassmen who've been there! Join us as the Peer Academic Mentors provide you with information essential for your college experience—free of charge and giftcards to be had!

Finding Your Way: Scavenger Hunt/Open House at the Center for Academic Success

Thursday, August 23 / Prothro Center for Lifelong Learning / 4:00 – 6:00pm

The treacherous waters of the first semester are perilous enough without having to navigate your way blind. Join the Peer Academic Mentors as they assist you in uncovering the treasures of Southwestern and locate the academic and student service offices at your disposal: Writing Center, Business Office, Financial Assistance, Career Services, Residence Life and many more. Like any good Pirate scavenger hunt, hidden treasure is there for the finding. Join the Peer Academic Mentors for pizza, door prizes, giveaways and a tour of the Center for Academic Success as well as the newest building on campus; the Prothro Center for Lifelong Learning.

Informal/Informational Events

Throughout the Fall and Spring semesters, the Peer Academic Mentors will offer an informal event each month. These events are designed to provide a relaxed setting in which all Southwestern students can become acquainted with their mentors while enjoying a seasonal food or activity. In order to maintain a desired degree of spontaneity, the events are planned only in close proximity to the date at which they will occur. More information, including dates, times, and locations for all informal events will be available at a later date.

September: “Breaking the Ice”

Join us for sno-cones and a friendly informative chat. Meet your very own personal Peer Academic Mentor during the casual Q & A session about how to get the most out of your first semester at Southwestern.

October: “Note-Taking: The Write Way”

High School strategies for note-taking don't always translate easily to the college classroom. Don't worry – we've got a few tricks up our sleeves as well as some proven methods to get the most out of class time so you don't have to cram later.

November: “Self-Motivation”

You are almost through with your first semester, but still have finals to go. Now is the time to make sure you have all your questions answered, and are ready for crunch time. We know that this is your first time dealing with finals and that it is easy to get overwhelmed. Meet with the Mentors to prepare a plan to finish strong.

December: “Study snacks and schedules”

A personal favorite of several Peer Academic Mentors, this workshop is just how it sounds! We will help you relax before finals and make your very own study schedule so you that you can handle your exams with ease. Join us for some healthy snacks (designed to help your brain) and a calm environment to get your academic and social calendars in order. Learn to take care of your brain and your body for the stretch run.

January: “Couches and Coffee: Realizing new and productive ways to study”

Now that you are in college, you will need to find new and more productive ways to study. You will have learned by now that pulling an all-nighter is no longer the best way to prepare. Find out how to maximize your study time, and learn how the “when, where and how” you study, can have a huge impact on your potential academic success.

February: “What Do You Want to Be When You Grow Up?: Choosing a Major”

It can be a difficult question to answer, but for sophomores the time to make a decision is close at this point in the semester. Hear from the mentors about how to make the decision, how to declare a major, and about their own experiences with the process. We will have a panel of real, live Southwestern students to impart their wealth of knowledge about the majors we offer here at SU. Come with an open mind – you never know where you will or can be led by your Liberal Arts Education.

March: “College Writing”

Southwestern is all about the 10-page essays and 26-page research papers – believe us, we know! That's why we will be teaming up with the Debbie Ellis Writing Center to help you learn the fundamentals of quality writing. Bring whatever you are working on, and you will receive one-on-one attention that is specific to the subject and assignment that you are working on, or need help with.

April: “How to Use the Summer Wisely”

Playing in the hose is fun, but it does not do much for your resume. For a successful Southwestern student, summer yields many opportunities for experiences from which you can learn a lot and that can make you more attractive to graduate schools and potential employers. Learn from the mentors about the different options such as summer school, internships, study abroad, and more.

ACADEMIC CALENDAR 2012–2013

FALL 2012

- August 17 Friday - New students arrive on campus (evening)
20 Monday - First Year and Advanced Entry Seminar classes begin.
27 Monday - Classes begin
- September 3 Monday - Labor Day (SU Holiday-no classes)
4 Tuesday - Last day to register late
10 Monday - Last day to add courses
- October 1 Monday - Last day to drop courses without record entry or change to or from Pass/D/F, audit, or non-credit
3 Wednesday - Application for Diploma due: Fall candidates
12 Friday - Fall break begins at 10 p.m.
17 Wednesday - Classes resume at 8 a.m.
- November 5 Monday - Last day to drop courses
20 Tuesday - Thanksgiving Holiday begins at 10 p.m.
26 Monday - Classes resume at 8 a.m.
- December 7 Friday - Last day of classes
10 Monday - Final examinations begin
14 Friday - Final examinations end
15 Saturday - Recognition Ceremony for Prospective December Graduates

January 28 Monday Last day for removing “Incomplete” grades

SPRING 2013

- January 11 Friday - New student registration
14 Monday - Classes Begin
21 Monday - Martin Luther King, Jr. Day (SU Holiday, no classes)
22 Tuesday - Last day to register late
28 Monday - Last day to add courses
- February 8 Friday - Application for Diploma due: Spring and Summer candidates
18 Monday - Last day to drop courses without record entry or change to or from Pass/D/F, audit, or non-credit
- March 8 Friday - Spring Break begins at 10 p.m.
18 Monday - Classes resume at 8 a.m.
28 Thursday - Easter Holiday begins 10 p.m.
31 Sunday - Easter
- April 1 Monday - Classes resume at 8 a.m.
1 Monday - Last day to drop courses
- May 3 Friday - Last day of classes
6 Monday - Final examinations begin
6 Monday - Seniors’(prospective May & August graduates) grades due in Registrar’s Office by 5:00 p.m.
10 Friday - Final examinations end
11 Saturday - Commencement
13 Monday - Remainder of grades due by 5:00 p.m.

September 9 Monday Last day for removing “Incomplete” grades

SUMMER 2013

- Summer I Term May 15– June 6 (May 27 Holiday-no classes)
Summer II Term June 10-July 1
Non-Residential Term May 15–August 23 (Please check the calendars of individual programs, including the Southwestern Summer Study Abroad Program.)