Transitioning to Campus Culture

Whether you are living on campus, commuting to campus, or taking classes on line, you will need to adapt to campus culture. Adapting to campus culture means a variety of things from learning where you can park on campus to how to access your grades at the end of the term. The following keys to success will go over how you make this transition as smooth as possible.

Keys to Success

In order to help you transition to campus culture, follow these keys to success:

Attend new student orientation. New student orientation provides important materials for incoming students including campus services and resources, faculty and department information, and campus systems. It’s also an excellent time to meet your peers and learn more about the next few years.

Contact your professors and advisor. Once you have your schedule and know who your professors will be for the term, you should reach out to them and introduce yourself. It’s a great way to break the ice and go into class knowing that you have already “met” the professor. You should also contact your faculty advisor who will have important registration, scheduling, and graduation materials for you.

Review the College’s Course Catalog. The College’s Course Catalog is found on the College’s website (under “Academics”) and houses all of the policies that apply to students at the college. You will learn about our academic integrity policy, attendance policy, and many others. You will also find course descriptions, program requirements, and graduation requirements there. It’s a great way to quickly learn about the college and how to navigate its systems.

Check out campus resources. Spend some time getting to know our campus resources, including the people who work in campus offices. For academic assistance, get to know more our learning center, tutoring services, and library. We also have counseling services, activities, and athletics. You should also get to know about our financial aid and records and registration offices.

Get involved! No matter if you live on campus or only fly in for graduation, you should get involved in campus life. Consider joining a campus club or organization such as our student government association, media club, honors fraternity, or theatre club. Work on your community service hours for graduation with a group of peers. If you’re on campus regularly, you can also try out for our athletic and intramural teams. If you don’t see a club or organization you’d be interested in, talk to our Activities Director to get one started!

Talk to people. It may sound simple, but one of the easiest ways to learn more about campus culture is to talk to people. Professors, staff, and other students know the campus culture and will certainly help you to navigate its systems. You can also follow the college’s social media accounts to learn more about our mission, our programs, and our campus culture.