GET BACK ON TRACK . . .

Whether you are working toward the final semester before graduation, in your second semester of your freshman year, or somewhere in between, the beginning of a new semester can be a confusing and difficult time. These tips can help you be less intimidated about new classes, new friends, new professors, and everything that comes with a college semester.

1. DON’T SKIP CLASS, READ THE SYLLABUS
You enrolled at SIU to get an education and attend class. It may seem easy to skip class during the first few days of the semester because you think there will be no new material to learn. It is important that you make it to these classes. The first few days of class are when you learn about what to expect for the semester and get to know the teacher. Professors take note of who makes it to the first class, and it can be a bad first impression if you skip.

Your syllabus reveals not only the important dates, but also what you will be learning and what your professor is expecting. Reading the syllabus is one of the first things you should do for any class, and most of your questions about a class can likely be answered. Put important dates from the syllabus into a calendar with reminders and alerts of upcoming assignments and test.

2. GET INVOLVED: JOIN A STUDENT ORGANIZATION
Try something new this semester: join a student or Greek organization. You can get your friends involved, too. SIU has over 400 student organizations that provide an opportunity to enhance your leadership capabilities. SIU also has 33 fraternities and sororities that offer students the opportunity to become strong leaders, serve your community, and become part of the large Greek alumni to assist you in future endeavors. More information about registered student organizations can be found here. Information on fraternities and sororities can be found here.

3. RELAX
Don’t overwhelm yourself in the first few weeks of the semester. Make sure to ease into the semester and take small steps into the workload. Relax and enjoy being back at school, but don’t get too comfortable. Find time to work out or exercise, drink coffee with friends, go bowling at the Student Center, or check out the latest movies. Making time for YOU will help you get back on track and accomplish the goals you have set for the semester.

Written by Cpl. Molly Pyatt

VEHICLE BURGLARY PREVENTION

Remove ALL VALUABLES
LOCK the doors
COMPLETELY roll up windows
Report any SUSPICIOUS activity or persons to the police

618-453-DPS1 (3771)
WEATHER PREPAREDNESS 101

Winter weather is upon us, and living in Illinois brings with it various weather patterns. It is not unlikely to have seasonably warm days in January, followed by heavy rain, and possible tornados. Did I mention ice and snow tend to fall during the first few months of the new year? So what do all the weather words the forecasters use mean... 

WARNING
A warning is issued when a hazardous weather event is occurring, imminent or likely to occur. A warning means weather conditions pose a threat to life or property. Those in the path of the storm need to take protective actions.

WATCH
A watch is when the risk of a hazardous weather event has increased significantly, but its occurrence, location or timing is still uncertain. A watch means the weather is possible, and people in the path should have a plan of action in case the storm threatens their locations.

ADVISORY
An advisory is issued when a hazardous weather event is occurring, imminent or likely to occur. Advisories are issued for less serious conditions than warnings, these events may cause a significant inconvenience on those in the path. Caution should still be taken.

OUTLOOK
An outlook is issued when a hazardous weather event is possible in the next week. Outlooks are intended to raise awareness of the potential for significant weather.

TAX TIME ALERT

Although it is early, the Offices of Information Technology (OIT) and Human Resources (HR) want to raise awareness among faculty, staff, and student employees about the potential for email tax scams.

As we move into tax season, you may start receiving emails claiming to be from SIU Carbondale HR, the State of Illinois, your department, or even the IRS. Be very skeptical if you receive this type of correspondence by email—and equally cautious when dealing with it.

You should first know that SIU Carbondale, the State of Illinois, and the Internal Revenue Service will never send you an email requesting your personal information. Typical red flags for scam email are that it is an unexpected email; you don’t recognize the sender or the sender’s address looks suspicious; the email urges you to respond or act quickly; you are not addressed by name; the email contains no contact information; the email contains typos or oddly worded sentences; or the email asks you to click on a link or copy and paste an address into the address bar. Be wise and be safe—do not respond and delete the email.

To keep the campus community informed, OIT Security maintains a list of known scams; however, the list is not a complete list of all scams that may be circulating. If you are in doubt, send questionable emails to OIT Security.

For questions that pertain to SIU Carbondale employment or payroll issues and W-2s form you can contact the Human Resource-Payroll Office at (618) 536-3369, visit the Human Resources website, or access the Human Resources Self Service system online.
**Meet Your Liaison!**

**Daytime Hours**

Trueblood Hall / Lentz Hall  
Ofc. Followell

Student Recreation Center  
Ofc. Dozier

Student Center  
Ofc. Nguyen

Morris Library  
Ofc. Bryant

Student Services Building  
Ofc. Stark

Evergreen Terrace  
Cpl. Keith & Ofc. Stark

Communications Building  
Cpl. Keith

Faner Hall / Life Science I, II, III  
Cpl. Borum

Northwest Annex  
Ofc. Nguyen

Anthony Hall / SIU Athletics  
Lt. Allen

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**CRIME OR INCIDENT REPORTING**

There are several reporting options available for victims of crime. Criminal incidents including, but not limited to theft, burglary and drug or alcohol use should be reported to law enforcement. For incidents of sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence and stalking, individuals have additional reporting options.

Some individuals may pursue justice though the legal system, while others are interested in personal restoration. The options for reporting sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence and stalking are available at any time, although reporting is encouraged as soon as possible following an incident. You are not required to select just one option – you may choose multiple options because each option may offer a different type of resolution. The links below will help to identify the options that best meet your needs.

1. **Report to Law Enforcement**
2. **Report to the University**
3. **Seek Confidential Support**

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The Administration at the Department of Public Safety would like to congratulate DPS employees who were recognized during the annual awards ceremony on October 30, 2018.

**Meritorious Service Awards**

Assistant Parking Coordinator Misty Butler  
Records Office Manager Carolyn Gayer

**Community Service Awards**

Corporal Adam Cunico

**Director's Award**

Brad Dillard, Director of SIU Plant & Service Operations

**Lifesaving Award**

Corporal Carrie Keith

**Excellent Service Awards**

Lieutenant Robert Neef  
Sergeant Allan Willmore  
Sergeant Geoff Geittmann  
Corporal Adam Fager  
Detective Scott Miller  
Detective Renee Eberhard  
Detective Dustin Borum  
Officer Daniel Presley  
Officer Michael Allen  
Officer Derrick Smith
COUNSELORS IN RESIDENCE

SIU Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) and University Housing website work together to make counseling available for students who live in University Housing. Students can call or come by the office to access support ranging from crisis services, intakes, and brief intervention. Other services to be provided throughout the semester include workshops, seminars, and group support.

**How do I see a Counselor at University Housing?** Students can be self-referred or referred by University Housing staff. Counselors can be reached at (618) 453-5371.

**Is this counseling session free?** The cost is $10.00 per visit and must be billed to your Bursar account.

**Where is CAPS at University Housing?** This office is located in Baldwin Hall/Thompson Point.

**What are the hours for CAPS at University Housing?** The Counselors are available from 12:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Monday through Sunday. Hours are subject to change during University holidays or during semester breaks.

SAFETY, AWARENESS, FACTS AND EDUCATIONS

The SAFE website, safe.siu.edu, has been updated. SAFE was created as a resource for students, faculty, staff and visitors that contains the most current information about campus resources, crime reporting, crime prevention and safety. Please review this website to use as a resource in the future. The SIU Campus Crime Report, Clery and VAWA reporting is also available on this website.