GET BACK ON TRACK. . .

Whether you are working towards 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 tests.

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 upcoming semester.

SIU SAFE WALK APP

The Department of Public Safety offers a guided walking service to students and faculty members via a mobile app. The Safe Walk app was developed to assist students, faculty and staff with the opportunity to walk to various locations on and off campus with an escort. The new SIU Safe Walk app is available free through your app store. You will need to provide your name, Dawg tag number, email, phone number, and the starting location. After the walk is requested, a confirmation email will be sent from the DPS dispatcher on duty. A Saluki Patrol person or an SIU Police Officer will meet the person requesting the walk at the designated start location and time.
**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 wish to pursue justice though the legal system immediately, while others are interested in only seeking counseling and assistance in dealing with the trauma of the incident. 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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**Safety, Awareness, Facts and Education**

The **S.A.F.E** website was created as a resource for students, faculty, staff and visitors that contains information about campus resources, crime reporting, crime prevention, and safety. The SIU Campus Crime Report, Clery and Violence Against Women Act reporting is also available on this website. Additional information is available on the university reporting structure for incidents related to sexual violence, domestic and dating violence, stalking and sexual harassment.
Want to know more about DPS and what we do?

The Department of Public Safety offers a Ride-Along program on any of the three shifts. The shifts are 7:00 am till 3:00 pm, 3:00 pm till 11:00 pm, and 11:00 pm till 7:00 am. Just come to the dispatch window located in the basement of Trueblood Hall with your driver’s license. Request and fill out a Ride-Along form to get started. The one-on-one time you will get with our officers is your time to learn how we serve our campus community. It is also your chance to ask questions and get to know us better. We look forward to meeting you.

Did you know in the event of a fire, you may have just two minutes to escape? With cooler temperatures, people are spending more time indoors, increasing the potential for a fire. To help protect yourself and your family, follow the tips below to ensure that you are taking all safety precautions against fire hazards:

- Identify and remove fire hazards
- Test your smoke detectors monthly
- Change the batteries of your smoke detectors, as needed
- Be sure fire extinguishers are in proper working condition
- Know the proper way to use a fire extinguisher
- Create two fire escape plans & practice them
- If there is a fire, GET OUT & STAY OUT
- Call 9-1-1 for all fire emergencies
- If you are on fire, STOP, DROP, & ROLL

**IF THERE IS A FIRE ANYWHERE ON CAMPUS, THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY AND THE FIRE DEPARTMENT MUST BE NOTIFIED IMMEDIATELY!!!**
It’s a fact: some students (both over and under 21) will drink this year. Whether you are one of those students or not, remember if you are drunk and alone, you could be an easy target. To ensure

**Follow Us!**

Please “like” our Southern Illinois University-Carbondale Department Facebook page. You can also follow us on Twitter at SIUC_Police. We provide information regarding local events, safety tips and press releases for major incidents. You can also send us your questions through private messages and tips on any recent crimes that have taken place.

**Facebook.com/siuc.dps**

Twitter @SIUC_Police

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**SIU CONFIDENTIAL ADVISORS**

**Advisor for Victims**

Rebecca Gonnering works for SIU Wellness and Health Promotion Services located within the Student Health Center. To schedule an appointment, please go to the Saluki Health Portal or call Rebecca at (618) 453-4429.

**Advisor for Respondents**

John Massie works for the Dean of Students located within the Student Services Building. To schedule an appointment, please contact John at (618) 453-7557.

**Both advisors can help students in the following ways:**

- Changes to on-campus living arrangements
- Changes to on-campus work assignments
- Accessing academic support
- Changes to dining assignments
- Transportation assistance
- Filing reports and discussing reporting options
- Obtaining protective orders
- Notifying local law enforcement
- Resources and referrals to other services including medical care, counseling services, legal resources and more

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**Is your emergency kit ready and available?**

During these cold winter months, you should have an emergency kit available in both your vehicle and at home. Here are some items you may consider putting in your kit:

- Water & food
- Battery-powered radio & extra batteries
- First aid kit
- Flashlight
- Multi-purpose tool
- Whistle
- Moist towelettes
- Cell phone w/ charger
- Blankets

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**EMERGENCY KITS**