

NONTRAD NEWS

December 7, 2016

See that? It's the proverbial light at the end of the long tunnel that has been your fall semester. There's one last hurdle to leap: **Finals Week – December 15-23, 2016**. For some of you, it will be your last round of finals. Congratulations to all of you who are graduating. Celebrate the hard work you put in to achieve this goal. It is a great accomplishment for you and your family. As you go forth, may you look back with pride and look forward with confidence.

Graduates, did you know that your current UW-W email will stay active for 120 days after graduation? If you would like to have a warhawk email beyond that point, you can do so by signing up using this link: <http://www.uww.edu/warhawk4life/>. You can also request your \$100.00 enrollment fee that you paid when you started at UW-W. Below is the link to the form to claim it. Once again, Congratulations and Good Luck!

<http://www.uww.edu/Documents/adminaffairs/finance/sfs/Enrollment%20deposit%20refund%20request%20updated.pdf>

To cap off your long and productive semester here are some helpful tips for acing your finals from the *Guide to College Life*.

College Studying Tips for Final Exams:

1. **Talk to your professor about the exam.** Participating in a study session or visiting with your professor during office hours will give you the opportunity to ask questions about what is going to be on the test and how best you can study for it.
2. **Be certain what material will be covered on the final.** Some finals are comprehensive, covering all the material from the semester; others may cover the material taught since the last exam. Knowing will allow you to focus your studying efforts more effectively.
3. **Look at other exams you've had in the class.** Previous exams will indicate what material your professor thinks is important enough to test on, and what format he or she likes to use. Plan your study approach accordingly.
4. **Create or join a study group.** Studying with peers is a great way to break up the material: each person can make a study guide for certain chapters and create a comprehensive study guide together.

5. **Ask other students who have taken the class before what to expect.** Chances are someone you know has taken the class before. Ask around to find out what the course final is like and what you'll need to do to be as prepared as possible.

Knowing how to prepare before, handle the stress during, and celebrate afterward can be key elements to your success.

Stress is a constant throughout the semester, but during finals week, stress is taken to a whole new level. Try to find ways to rest and relax during finals week and it will help you make it through the madness. Exercise is one way to alleviate stress and highly recommended.

Textbook Rental: All Fall semester books are due back by 4:15PM on Friday, December 23rd. Your UW-W I.D. is required for every transaction at Textbook Rental – returning and picking up books. Late fines will be assessed beginning Monday, December 26th. If you will be taking classes during Winterim, you can begin picking up your books on Monday, December 12th once you have returned all your books from fall semester and your record is cleared. Textbook Rental will have extended hours Monday, December 19th – Thursday, December 22nd – 8:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Checking your Grades: Your semester grades will be posted on WINS at the end of the semester! The earliest you will be able to review your semester grades is December 28, 2016. If you are uncertain on how to view your grades, please follow the steps found at this link:

<http://www.uww.edu/aaec/howto/check-grades>

For those of you that aren't graduating, check out the online scholarship application database for currently enrolled UW-Whitewater students. The applications opened December 1st and applications are due by **February 22nd**. You can view scholarships through WINS. Click UWW Applications->Scholarships->Scholarship Search. This list of scholarships is not exhaustive, so you should also check with your department or college for other scholarship opportunities. Winterim break is a great time to take some down time to fill out scholarship applications. They can be tedious, but you don't want to miss out on scholarship money to help support your education. Those application deadlines have a way of sneaking up on you so use these tips to help you get started on the process:

10 Tips for Writing Effective Scholarship Essays (Scholarships.com)

1. Read the instructions and make sure you understand them before you start writing.
2. Think about what you are going to write and organize your thoughts before you start writing.
3. Begin the writing process by writing an outline.
4. Make sure your outline touches on every aspect required per the instructions.
5. Write your essay by elaborating on each of the points in your outline.
6. Use clear, concise, and simple language throughout the essay.
7. State your accomplishments without sounding like you are bragging.
8. Make sure your grammar and spelling are impeccable.

9. Read the question again, and then read your essay to be certain that your essay addresses every point.
10. Have someone with strong writing and editing skills proofread the essay before you submit it.

Finals Week: During Finals Week, you will find extra goodies in the Non Trad Pad – UC 133. Stop by and grab a beverage and/or a peanut butter and jelly sandwich you can eat on your way to your exams.

As nontraditional students, you get caught up in the demands of school and the time spent with your built-in support group – family gets put on the back burner. Once finals are over, you will feel as if a weight has been lifted from your shoulders and your family can be moved to the front burner. There is a reason we have a winter break – to enjoy the most important people in your life to the fullest. Take this time to download, distress, and disconnect. School will start back up soon enough – Tuesday, January 17th. Take this time to invest in the most important things – your family, friends and yourself. I picture you making snow angels, curling up on the couch with your family for a good holiday movie, and getting up mid-morning to begin a day of play all over again. As you unwind with your family, I hope you will experience a sense of renewal and refreshment. Take this time to build memories. Wishing you all the best this holiday season and a Happy New Year to all!



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