

Important Tips for New Wildcats

Hello Wildcat Freshmen!

As the new academic year begins, your academic advisors want to send you some important tips to follow, starting now, so you can get ready and be prepared for a successful semester. Please read these carefully as they are very important!

Email

-So important!

- Check** your UA email at **least twice per day**, especially around the time when school starts
- You can forward another account to your UA email
- Set up folders for email so you don't get overwhelmed with a full inbox
- Only use your UA email address for communicating with professionals on campus (Professors, Advisors, etc.)

Books

- Save your receipts in case you change classes and don't open it if it's plastic-wrapped
- Wait until after the first day of class and the syllabus is reviewed to open plastic-wrapped books
- You can find your booklist through a link in the right column on your UAccess or through the [UA bookstore website](#)
- If you buy your books online make sure you get the correct edition! Ask the instructor if older editions are acceptable

Classes

- Double check your schedule if you printed it earlier this summer (*rooms may have changed*)
- Double check rooms and times the day before school starts
- Take a "practice run" to all the buildings your classes are in
- As you enter any class, read the door and front board for course/room change announcements
- Read every syllabus front-to-back; it is your contract for the course!
- Get a planner and write in every assignment and exam due date as soon as you get your syllabi; also write down [dates and deadlines](#)
- Use Think Tank's [semester on a page](#) and put your exams and big assignments on it for a quick glance of your requirements for the semester! This will help you notice exams and papers that are due on the same day.
- If you want to try getting into a closed class:
 - *Email the professor or contact the department in advance to determine if there's a waitlist or specific procedure for trying to get into the class
 - *The best way to add is by checking UAccess; students will be changing their schedules a lot during the week before school starts and the first week of school
 - *Take a [Change of Schedule form](#) to the first day of the class; if the instructor signs it, take it to the Registrar's Office ASAP (it is only valid for 5 days)

Academic support

- If you're overwhelmed by a class and you think you're in over your head, go see your [advisor](#) ASAP!**

- Explore the [Think Tank](#) and write down workshop and weekly course review dates and times
- Figure out where the nearest computer lab/printer is to your classes

Finances

- Use [Handshake](#) (especially to find work study jobs) – this resource is FREE to students registered for at least one credit for the current or future term. [Handshake](#) is through [Career Services](#) and there are tons of amazing resources on it!
- Tuition payments are due by first day of class to avoid late fee

Other

- [Register your bike](#) with Parking & Transportation and use U-locks only; don't use cable locks on a bike, they are easily cut
- Watch the weather forecast; it will still be raining for the next month! Bring an umbrella!
- Bookmark the online phonebook: www.arizona.edu/phonebook - you can find your professors, TAs, advisors, friends, and any other contacts you might need

Don't wait to get help – contact your advisor! It is normal to feel overwhelmed, but we are here to support you!