

Happy 2009 Baylor Students!

Welcome back to Baylor for a new semester. Below is your January *To-Do List* to help you in getting your semester off to a great start. Remember the 5 P's – **prior planning prevents poor performance**, so be proactive from the very beginning in all of your academic endeavors this semester.

Sic 'em Bears ~Your Quality Service Team

## January To-Do List:

### Tip of the month:

**Plan for Success Today** - Before you do another thing, sit down with a semester calendar and record every major test and assignment. Don't worry about daily reading or homework assignments. Concentrate on the big items. Why now, today even? As you go through this exercise you may see that on February 19<sup>th</sup> (for example) you have two major tests and a research paper due. Yikes! You realize immediately that you will need to start preparing for these things early on so that you don't find yourself, on Valentine's day, thinking, "How did this happen?" Instead, if you get a head start, you will be thinking, "Wow, this is not so hard after all!" For a semester planner template and more helpful academic success tips, visit the Academic Support Programs web site at [http://www.baylor.edu/support\\_programs/](http://www.baylor.edu/support_programs/) or call 254-710-8212.

- **Has your contact information changed? Update it in BearWeb.** – Baylor uses the personal contact information in BearWeb to reach you with important information. Keep your contact information up to date. **Please include your cell phone number if that's your main phone contact, also please make sure your home and local addresses are correct.** To update your personal information, log in to BearWeb (<http://bearweb.baylor.edu>) and choose "Personal information."
- **File your FAFSA** – The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) is a government form you have to file or renew **every year** to be considered for need-based financial aid. Apply or reapply for financial aid for the 2009-2010 academic year as soon after January 1 as you can using your (and your parents' if applicable) prepared 2008 income tax return information. Priority consideration for aid is given to those students for whom Baylor has received FAFSA results by **March 1<sup>st</sup>**, so don't delay. For more information about FAFSA see this website: <http://www.baylor.edu/finaid/fafsainfo>. To file your FAFSA or renewal on-line use this website: [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov) .
- **Make any last changes to your Spring '09 schedule (Add-Drops)** – If you want to make changes to your Spring '09 schedule you still can, but you need to do so fairly quickly. Here are some things you need to know about add-drops:

- **Now through January 21<sup>st</sup>** (closed Jan. 19 for MLK holiday), students who are assigned to be advised in Academic Advisement (SR 103), BIC, Undergraduate Business Office, CASA (SR 053), Education, or Pre-Nursing may go to that office to process drop/adds.
- Registrations must be made in Registration & Academic Records Office, third floor Robinson Tower, Suite 370 beginning January 20.
- Beginning **January 22<sup>nd</sup>**, all schedule changes must be made in the Registration & Academic Records Office, third floor Robinson Tower, Suite 370. You will be charged an add-drop fee of \$20. Be sure to bring your ID.
- Be careful about dropping classes. Reducing your hours can affect your financial aid, your ability to stay in the residence hall, and lots of other things. This website has more information:  
<http://www.baylor.edu/advising/index.php?id=50796>
- **January 21<sup>st</sup> is the last day you can register or add classes.**
- Your basic tuition cost will stay the same as long as you stay within 12-18 hours, but different classes may have different fees. So, adding and dropping can affect your bill. The change will show up on your next monthly e-bill.
- Information regarding refunds for dropping classes can be found at:  
<http://www.baylor.edu/cashiers/index.php?id=4996>
- **Change your meal plan** – If you want to reduce your meal plan, you need to do it during the first two weeks of class (last day – January 23<sup>rd</sup>). To change, send an e-mail to the Cashier's Office: [cashiers\\_office@baylor.edu](mailto:cashiers_office@baylor.edu). Here's the site for more information about freshman meal plan options: [www.baylor.edu/dining/freshmanmeals](http://www.baylor.edu/dining/freshmanmeals). **Meal plan FAQ's** - [http://www.baylor.edu/cashiers/index.php?id=4569&action=qa&faq\\_prop=2029](http://www.baylor.edu/cashiers/index.php?id=4569&action=qa&faq_prop=2029)
- **Find out about study abroad opportunities** – Baylor offers a wide variety of study abroad programs. If you are thinking about participating in one of these programs this summer, you need to start making plans now. Here's how you can get more information:
  - **Study Abroad Information Sessions** - Every Monday and Tuesday at 4:00 pm in Poage Library Room 201 B.
  - For more information: [www.baylor.edu/cie/studyabroadinfo](http://www.baylor.edu/cie/studyabroadinfo)
- **Take a library research workshop** – Do you have classes that will require library research this semester? If so, a library research workshop will help you learn efficient ways to find the books, articles, and electronic resources you need. Sign up at the Social Science & Humanities Reference Desk in person, or call 254-710-2122 or e-mail [Janet\\_Sheets@baylor.edu](mailto:Janet_Sheets@baylor.edu). Here's the website for information about dates and times: [http://www.baylor.edu/lib/index.php?id=28535&type=child&cat\\_id=443](http://www.baylor.edu/lib/index.php?id=28535&type=child&cat_id=443)

- **Start planning what courses you'd like to take next summer and fall** - Current students register for summer and fall 2009 classes on assigned days in April so begin planning now to meet with your academic advisor(s) sometime before that. Be sure to check BearWeb to verify your major and to find your academic advising instructions and requirements. Your current assigned advising areas are listed under "Student and Financial Aid", "Registration", "Advisement Contact Information."

When you meet with your advisor, don't forget to discuss any coursework you plan to take away from Baylor next summer as transfer credit. Keep in mind that once you enter Baylor you may transfer in a total of only 15 hours of credit from other schools.

- **Sign up for tutoring** – Beginning **January 20<sup>th</sup>** there will be free tutoring Monday-Thursday 1-9 pm, in the Foster Success Center Tutoring Center, Room 074, ground level of the Sid Richardson Building. A wide variety of subjects are covered including math, sciences, religion, and business courses. To get more details and find out how to make an appointment visit the following website: [www.baylor.edu/support\\_programs](http://www.baylor.edu/support_programs) , call 254-710-8254, or e-mail: [Steven\\_Richard@Baylor.edu](mailto:Steven_Richard@Baylor.edu)
- **Visit Career Counseling in Sid Richardson, Room 132** – Need help with choosing a major? You can schedule a free appointment by completing the on-line request form at [www.baylor.edu/careercounseling](http://www.baylor.edu/careercounseling). If you have questions, please call 254-710-8434.
- **Prepare for and attend one of the following Baylor Career Fairs –**

#### **STEM Job Fair**

Thursday, February 5, 2009, 1:00 - 4:00 p.m.

Hankamer School of Business, Blume Conference Center, 5th Floor

A job fair for Baylor students and alumni seeking full-time and internship employment opportunities. This fair focuses on firms and employers seeking to recruit in the more technical fields of engineering, technology, computing, mathematics, and the sciences.

#### **Internship/Job Fair**

Wednesday, February 18, 2009, 12:30 - 4:30 p.m.

Ferrell Center

Baylor Career Services is hosting a campus-wide internship/job fair this spring. This event is for students seeking internships and graduating seniors looking for that first professional job! Different employers, seeking Baylor students in all academic fields, will be present.

While some companies do seek specific majors, the majority of companies are open to all majors. Many companies will also be available for on-campus interviewing, both preceding and following the fair date. Check the Hire-A-Bear On-Campus Interview Schedules.

Student "to do" list before the fairs:

- RSVP for career events in your Hire A Bear account at [www.hireabear.com](http://www.hireabear.com).
- Research the attending companies.
- Prepare a one-minute commercial about yourself.
- Have your resume critiqued by Career Services staff.

### Important January Dates:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ <b>1/14</b> -File your Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) (<a href="http://www.fafsa.ed.gov">www.fafsa.ed.gov</a>) as soon as you can!</li><li>▪ <b>1/19</b> - MLK holiday</li><li>▪ Now through <b>1/21</b> - Students assigned to be advised in Academic Advisement, BIC, Business, CASA, Education, pre-nursing may process drop/adds for spring in those offices</li><li>▪ <b>1/16</b> – After this date, BearWeb registration and drop/adds closed for spring</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ <b>1/20</b> – Registration or class changes can be processed in the Registration and Academic Records Office, RT, Suite 370</li><li>▪ <b>1/21</b> – Last day to register or add</li><li>▪ <b>1/22</b> – Any class changes <u>must</u> be made in Registration and Academic Records Office, RT, Suite 370</li><li>▪ <b>1/23</b> – Last day to reduce or delete meal plan</li><li>▪ <b>1/31</b> – January tuition installment due</li></ul>
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### Around the Corner:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ <b>2/5</b> – Career Services’ STEM Job Fair. For information, visit <a href="http://www.hireabear.com">www.hireabear.com</a></li><li>▪ <b>2/9</b> – Last day to drop a class without a grade assigned. After this date, classes dropped must be assigned a “DP” or “DF” by the instructor of record. Please visit this site before dropping: <a href="http://www.baylor.edu/advising/index.php?id=50796">http://www.baylor.edu/advising/index.php?id=50796</a></li><li>▪ <b>2/18</b> – Career Services’ Internship/ Job Fair</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ <b>3/1</b> – Priority date for consideration for financial aid. (FAFSA should be received by this date.)</li><li>▪ <b>3/7 - 3/15</b> – Spring Break</li><li>▪ <b>3/17</b> – Courses dropped after this date will be recorded as failed. Please visit this site before dropping: <a href="http://www.baylor.edu/advising/index.php?id=50796">http://www.baylor.edu/advising/index.php?id=50796</a></li></ul>
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