

Greetings again, Baylor students!

We hope you are continuing to enjoy the fall semester. October is a busy month around the Baylor campus. Thus, we hope this month's "to-do" list will help you balance all your academic and social responsibilities. It is also an appropriate time in the academic semester to evaluate how well you are progressing in your courses. If you are doing well, then keep up the great work. If you are not doing so well, then be **proactive and seek out assistance** from a member of our caring and supportive Baylor community. We want you to be successful in all your endeavors at Baylor. Please let us know if we can help in any way to make your time at Baylor go above and beyond your expectations.

Sic 'em Bears ~Your Quality Service Team

October 2009 To-Do's:

Tip of the Month:

SI (Supplemental Instruction) is a great way to join an organized study group. But what about those classes that have no SI? **Form your own study group.** Here's how to get started. Find 4 or 5 motivated people in the class, ask each to attend an organizational meeting to which each will bring all study notes and review sheets, and come by the Academic Support Programs office, ground level, west wing of the Foster Success Center (Sid Richardson Building), for a stack of study strategy brochures. For more ideas, call us at 254-710-8696.

- **Pay October tuition installment** – To pay your October installment on-line, log in to BearWeb (<http://bearweb.baylor.edu>) and choose "Student & Financial Aid" and then "Cashier." Failure to be current in installment plan payments will result in a Cashier's Office hold preventing registration.
- **Be PROACTIVE now; get help with classes** – Mid-term deficiency reports will be distributed on Tuesday, October 13th, via Baylor e-mail. Don't wait for your professor(s) to report a deficient grade(s). Make an appointment immediately to discuss your academic status in each class with your professor or an academic advisor.

If you need ideas on how to improve your grades, an academic learning specialist, within the Paul L. Foster Success Center, can meet with you one-on-one and help you make a specific plan for getting your grades on track before the end of the semester. To find out more, contact Trish Baum, 254-710-8771 or e-mail Trish_Baum@baylor.edu . You can also visit the Grade Recovery website at: http://www.baylor.edu/support_programs/graderecovery .

- **Set an academic advising appointment** - All freshmen, most sophomores, and juniors and seniors in certain majors or programs are required to meet with an

academic advisor before they will be cleared to register for Spring 2010 classes later this semester. **Check Bear Web to make sure your major is correct and to see a complete list of your current advising requirements.** You can go to BearWeb, Student Services & Financial Aid, Advisement, and then Advisement Contact Information to gather specific information about who to contact and where to go to get advised.

Many students are required to see an advisor in more than one area. (Advising areas other than the major could include departments or programs such as Student-Athlete Services, Honors, pre-healthcare, and others.) It is very important to set your advising appointment(s) early. **Go ahead and do it now!**

All **sophomores in the College of Arts and Sciences** are required to be advised before registration. Many of these students are assigned to be advised in the CASA (College of Arts and Sciences) Advisement Office. This office is located on the ground level of Sid Richardson. For more details, check out their website at http://www.baylor.edu/arts_sciences/casa/

- **Prepare for registration** - For all classifications, to find out **your assigned day to register** for Spring 2010 classes go to <http://www.baylor.edu/earlyregistrationschedule> .
- **MAP out your academic career** - MAPs (Major Academic Planners) for most majors are available at <http://www.baylor.edu/advising/> and they can be found in the “Quicklinks” box. The MAPs show a suggested semester-by-semester sequence of courses and are designed to help you graduate in four years (or slightly more for longer programs.) Start writing your academic plan today!
- **Check out the Baylor Academic Advising website** - Get answers to your advising questions by reviewing the Academic Advising website at <http://www.baylor.edu/advising/>
- **Plan Ahead for Fall, Thanksgiving & Semester Breaks**
 - Residence Halls will remain open during Fall & Thanksgiving Break for students with a need to remain on campus. Front desk services and meal service will not be provided during the holiday break. See the Campus Living & Learning web page for more detailed information (<http://www.baylor.edu/cll/index.php?id=38320>).
 - The residence halls will close at 6:00 pm on Thursday, December 17th for the fall semester. They will reopen for the spring semester on Thursday, January 7th at 8:00 am. Arbors Apartments, East Arbors Apartments, Fairmont, Gables, North Village and Brooks Flats will remain open during this time.

- **Decide on a major** - Career Counseling offers free, one-on-one sessions for students who need assistance in choosing a major. Students can request an appointment by visiting www.baylor.edu/careercounseling

If you have already decided on a major and have not made that change official, please access the following website:

<http://www.baylor.edu/advising/index.php?id=48223> and follow the instructions for taking care of this right away. It is important to make sure your major is current in the system so that all your academic advising information will also be correct in BearWeb.

Important October 2009 Dates:

10/13 – Mid-term deficiency reports distributed 10/16 -10/18 – Fall Break 10/20 - Courses dropped on or after this date will be recorded as failed (DF). Please visit this site before dropping: www.baylor.edu/advising/index.php?id=50796 10/20 – Automatic withdrawal failing (WF)	10/23 - 10/25 – Homecoming weekend – www.baylor.edu/homecoming 10/31 - October tuition installment due
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Around the corner:

11/25 - 11/29 – Thanksgiving Holidays 11/30 – November tuition installment due 12/2 – Financial settlement begins for Spring 2010	12/7 – Last day of classes 12/8 – 12/19 – Study Days 12/10 - 12/16 – Final exams 12/19 - Commencement 12/21 – Payment due for Spring 2010
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Other Good Things To-Do:

- **Take advantage of a peer tutor in the free Success Center Tutoring Center** - Convenient scheduling on BearWeb is available. Use the following link to schedule an appointment with one of our awesome Foster Success Center tutors today: http://www.baylor.edu/support_programs/index.php?id=33852
- **Finalize plans for Homecoming 2009** – Homecoming weekend (10/23 - 25) is a big event at Baylor. Word to the wise: if you have family or friends coming to town, you better find a place for them to stay early – like now! Check out the homecoming website for tips about where to stay and to make sure you know what is happening when and where. www.baylor.edu/homecoming
- **Take advantage of the free Baylor shuttle service** - When you have a good parking place, stay in it! For route information: <http://www.baylor.edu/bus/>

- **Support the Bears and ride for free to the football games** - Make friends and save gas money. For information on riding the shuttle to the games, visit this website: <http://www.baylor.edu/bus/football>