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Your college *survival guide*

MADE BY STUDENTS, FOR STUDENTS

Starting from Scratch

We all managed to get through the ACT, Honors essay, and high school graduation; however, right now that all seems easy compared to the next daunting task: finding like-minded people to hang out with. We've all been there. The first few days at college are the most nerve-racking by far. It's like being back in kindergarten having to make friends all over again. If you're nervous, don't feel alone; most first-year students feel the same way you do. The "making friends" part of the college transition is one of the scariest things to have to do—but don't worry! There are things you can do to make this process a lot less intimidating:

Leave your door open Buy a door stop (\$2 at Meijer). When people walk by, say hello! A lot of times something they see in your room or hear from your stereo will spark a conversation.

Invite others to meals Inviting someone to eat after classes are done is a great way of getting to know someone. Hey, everyone's got to eat!

Explore If you're bored, walk around your hall and get to know everyone. Stop by and chat with those who have their rooms wedged open.

Attend hall meetings Sometimes the group exercises may seem kind of...lame, but if you just try to embrace them, they always turn out better than expected.

Seek diversity When you get to your classes for the first time, sit next to new people! Make small talk before class starts, ask them to be your lab partner, compare schedules, see if they want to grab a bite to eat after class, etc.

Facebook people

If you're working in a group, introduce yourself and write down their names. Adding them on Facebook makes it easier to set up study groups or even just to make casual plans in the future.

Join an RSO

What better way to make friends than by attending a meeting with a bunch of people with like interests? Ferris has an RSO (**R**egistered **S**tudent **O**rganization) for almost anything from professional organizations, anime and gaming organizations, arts and crafts clubs, to sports associations. Check out *OrgSync* for a full listing—ask your peer mentor about this. Contact the **RSO Honors Programming Board president**, Breeann Ovokaitys (ovokaib@ferris.edu) and find out how to join!

Go to events They may sound kind of lame on the flyers scattered around campus, but most of these events are really enjoyable. Honors offers free tickets to many events on campus and they're *great* conversation pieces with other people and can help satisfy your Honors cultural requirements!



Honors Formal, Spring 2011



Setting Yourself Up for Smooth Sailing

Straight from the mouths of upperclassmen: Things we wished we had known before the first day of class!

Following are a few tips taken from upperclassmen—things that they wished they would have known before their first year.

Buying books The most convenient options for book-buying are the James L. Lundberg University Bookstore located in Rankin and Great Lakes Bookstore located on Perry Ave. (behind Rite Aid). You will know the exact quality of what you are getting and, most of the time, get the books right away. However, there are cheaper options out there. Renting textbooks from the bookstore or from chegg.com saves students a lot of money every year. And purchasing textbooks through sites like Big-Word.com could also be a huge money saver. Also, check and see if your textbook is available in international form. A lot of times, international editions are cheaper and have the exact same content as the American editions.

Writing CE Reports Your HNRS 100 professor will go over what constitutes a cultural event and how to write up your reports. As of this writing, six reports will be due in your HNRS 100 fall

class but stay tuned for updated details. Your HNRS 100 professor will fill you in.

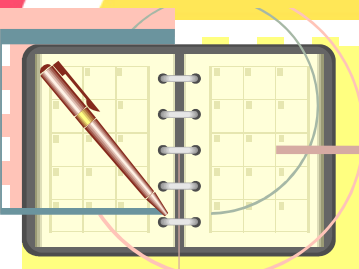
Keeping a planner DO THIS! Planners will keep you organized and on top of everything during your college career! You can bet that in a couple of weeks, 24 hours isn't going to seem like enough time in a day. A planner will help you manage those 24 hours so that you are always on top of everything. Once you get a syllabus for a class, mark down test and exam dates right away. Professors try to be good about reminding students, but if you miss class or if there is a holiday, word doesn't always get out, and **there are no re-tests in college.**

Using your resources Ferris gives you many *free* resources to help you succeed. If you're worried about that chemistry or accounting class, see if there is a **Structured Learning Assistance (SLA)** section for it, and switch into it. SLA courses, often taught by professors are basically a required study session built into a class. There is no extra cost and serves as a great

tool for mastering difficult courses. Not that great at writing papers? No problem! Ferris has a free **Writing Center** where you can drop off your papers and have them edited/critiqued by qualified staff. There is also the **Tutoring Center** to help you pass your courses with flying colors.

Managing freedoms You will find you have more freedom now than you have ever had before. It is tempting to slack off and wait until the last minute to get homework done or study for a test. There is no such thing as "cramming" in college because it won't work. Remember that the grades you receive your first semester at Ferris can set the stage for your cumulative GPA when you graduate. Fun and relaxation is essential but along with that comes responsibility and time management. Your membership in Honors and any scholarships you have been awarded are dictated by your GPA.

YOUR FIRST SEMESTER:
Don't let it ruin the rest of 'em



When you need help, keep these services in mind:

- **Free Tutoring Services:** X3543 or stop by ASC 1017 to schedule an appointment
- **Study Skills Help:** X3543 or stop by ASC 1017 to schedule an appointment
- **The Writing Center:** X2534 or stop by ASC 1017 to schedule an appointment
- **SLA:** X5947 and speak to **Arlene Krellwitz**, the program coordinator
- **Counseling Center:** X5968 to schedule a FREE appointment to help manage your stress
- **"Office Hours":** All of your professors have "office hours," or times when they will be in their office. Take advantage of these times! If you're struggling, **don't hesitate** to stop by their office. It's what has saved many of us from doing poorly in a class!

Rez Hall Shopping List

To the right are some suggested items you may not have thought about. Ask your peer mentor for their input!

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Door stopper | <input type="checkbox"/> Power strip |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Adjustable bed risers –or– loft supplies | <input type="checkbox"/> Folders for <i>each</i> class |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Coffee maker | <input type="checkbox"/> Notebooks for <i>each</i> class |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Breakfast bars | <input type="checkbox"/> Planner |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Floor lamp (non-medusa style) | <input type="checkbox"/> Light-blocking curtains |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Box fan (Hurry! These go <i>fast!</i>) | <input type="checkbox"/> Toothbrush sanitizer |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Mini dry-erase board |



Craig Karges the Extraordinist

Bulldog Beginnings — Take Part in Tradition

If you want to make your first couple weeks at Ferris truly memorable, take part in tradition and attend these Bulldog Beginnings events!

Bulldog Beginnings weekend is one of the most memorable times you will have here at Ferris. Make sure to mark your calendars for these Bulldog Beginnings classics. Your RA and Peer Mentor will assist you during this time.

Meijer Madness

One of the biggest and most popular events of Bulldog Beginnings. There will be a lot of games as well as many freebies! Got any last minute school shopping or room decoration purchases? You'll be able to get 10% off most store items only during this event!

When: August 27th @ 8PM

Where: Meijer on Perry St.

OMSS 2011 Transition to Success

Have any questions about your college transition? The Office of Multicultural Student Services would like to welcome first-year students to meet key administrators on campus who will have tips on making your transition to Ferris a smooth one. There will be giveaways of academic resources, supplies, and more.

When: August 29th @ 7PM

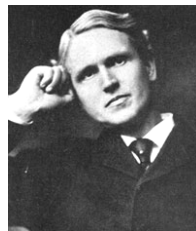
Where: Rankin Dome Room

Founders' Day Celebration

Free ice cream and food, as well as games and activities celebrating the day that Ferris was founded, 127 years ago.

When: September 1st @ 3PM

Where: Campus Quad



Woodbridge N. Ferris

Craig Karges the Extraordinist

An extreme mind-blowing show where tables float, minds are read, metal bends and your imagination is challenged because you won't believe your eyes!

When: September 1st @ 7PM

Where: Williams Auditorium

Season Opener Football Hosts Hillsdale

Come support your Bulldog football team at the season opener. Attendance is FREE to Ferris students.

When: September 2nd @ 7:30PM

Where: Top Taggard Field

Bulldog Bonanza

This is an opportunity for students to learn what area businesses, Registered Student Organizations, and FSU service departments have to offer! This is a FREE event and there will be a lot of freebies! Very popular!

When: September 14th @ 4PM

Where: Wink Arena

I'll bet you didn't know...

you can get cooking utensils from your residence hall front desk

you have free wireless printing available for pick up at your residence hall front desk - just download the software off of the STS webpage

you can see all Ferris job postings online on the Student Employment web page

you can get board games and video games from your residence hall front desk

you can rent camping and outdoor equipment from UREC

you can get your teeth cleaned at an affordable price at the Dental Hygiene Clinic on campus

you can have your resume edited by professionals **FOR FREE** at Career Services

you can practice for an interview with the virtual interview tool on the Career Services web page

you can pick out a professional outfit (men and women) for free at First Lady's Attic located in Rankin 171

you can replace your glasses or contacts right here on campus at the University Eye Center

you have access to thousands of journals, articles, and databases of information on the FLITE webpage

there are musician practice rooms equipped with pianos available for use in the Music Center

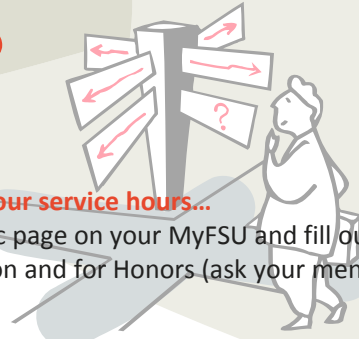
you can order take-out pizza from Westview or The Rock

you can visit FLITE and check out a private study room

you can recycle cans and newspapers in the Rankin lounge



The Where's Where??



You have a project that needs printing or binding...

...go to the Ferris State Copy Center for all of your printing and copying needs, at an affordable price

You want to log your service hours...

...visit the OrgSync page on your MyFSU and fill out a timesheet for the organization and for Honors (ask your mentor about this process)

You woke up feeling really, really sick...

...go to Birkam Health Center to get diagnosed and excused from classes

You want to sign up for an RSO...

...check out the complete list of RSOs on the Ferris website and then join them on OrgSync to get information about meeting and event dates

You want to avoid that Freshman 15...

...go to the University Recreation Center or the Racquet and Fitness Center where you can sign up for fitness classes, use cardio machines, sign up for intramural sports, lift free weights, and more

You want to get an A on a paper...

...visit FLITE library and talk to a research librarian for help on where to start collecting information; visit the Writing Center for aid in editing a rough draft; contact the Tutoring Office

You want to get a job on campus...

...visit the student employment page on the Ferris website to look at job postings and application requirements

You're craving something other than Dining Services...

...visit Quiznos in Rankin or Starbucks in IRC for a little change of pace

You want to get a job off campus...

...visit Career Services to work on a resume and spend a day downtown collecting applications

You need to get downtown...

...the city of Big Rapids offers an affordable transportation service called Dial-A-Ride; just call 231-796-8675 15-30 minutes in advance and go almost anywhere in Big Rapids for \$2

You got a parking ticket...

...visit the Department of Public Safety located near Cramer Hall on South Campus within two days upon receipt of ticket

You still don't know where to go after reading this...

...that is what your peer mentor is for—or, ask your RA!

You want to switch majors...

...contact the college where your new major is located to make the switch and they will guide you through the process

The Endeavor is written by Honors students who have dedicated themselves to the publication of an informative newsletter and is made available to Honors students and their parents as well as University faculty and staff.

This newsletter serves several purposes: it is a resource to Honors students who can utilize the publications to keep informed of Honors and of Ferris; it can provide Honors students who enjoy writing, journalism, or photography, an outlet for their gifts; and it informs Honors families back home what their student is involved in. In addition to *The Endeavor College Survival Guide*, a regular issue of *The Endeavor* is published at least once per semester.



The Honors Office (located in Helen Ferris Hall on North Campus) has colored maps to give out, or you can visit www.ferris.edu and type in *Campus Map* on the homepage. The office also has extra copies of the Honors Student Handbook; PCAT test Booklets and staff who are there to help you 8-5, M-F!

The Honors Program also has an office location in Puterbaugh Hall, 100D—across from the front desk. Office hours are very limited. Please call x2216 for Puterbaugh Office hours.