Academic Advising

Most of you have registered for Spring 2015 classes, and we hope you were successful in creating the schedule that works best for you. If you continue to have questions or concerns related to course registration, we encourage you to schedule an appointment with a TRiO staff member for assistance. We are here to help you! You may schedule an appointment by calling 315-267-2347 or stopping by 119 Sisson Hall.

Important Dates

November 13: Seniors Register
November 14: Juniors Register
November 17: Sophomores Register
November 19/20: Freshmen Register
November 26-30: Thanksgiving Break
December 12: Last Day of Classes
December 15-19: Finals Week
Be Prepared for Final Exams

It’s not too early to begin preparing for final exams. Here are some tips to begin.

Look up your Final Exam Schedule.

Final exams schedules are set according to the days/times that your course is held. Look up the days/times for each of your final exams by referring to the schedule at: www.potsdam.edu/offices/registrar/exams

Determine what material will be covered in your exams.

Is it cumulative? Will it cover material from the text, lecture notes, homework, content from previous exams, labs, projects, papers, or outside sources? Check out your syllabi and ask your professors these questions to determine as much as your can about the content to be

Gather study materials.

As you gather study materials, look to fill in any gaps. Find missing lecture notes from class absences, clarify confusing or incomplete information by asking your professor and/or tutor. Locate and supplemental reading materials.

Map out your study plan.

This can include individual and study groups and should include a variety of study modes such as creating flash cards, rewriting notes, reading, quizzing yourself and your friends, practicing problems, and discussing the material with others.

Spread out your study time.

If you spread out your studying over several weeks it will be much less stressful and more productive for you! Feel free to pick up complimentary scantron sheets and/or blue books. Good luck!
Financial Literacy
How to Get and Keep a Good Credit Score

Think of your credit score as a kind of financial GPA. Your goal is to keep improving it, and then maintain it when it’s the highest you can achieve. Always strive to keep it higher than it is currently. And if you’ve recently earned a failing grade—say, in the form of making late payments—you’ll need to work that much harder to raise your score!

Making Sense of Your Credit Score
To better understand the credit-scoring system, it may help to compare FICO credit-score ranges to a report card. Think of it like this:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Credit Score</th>
<th>Grade Equivalent</th>
<th>Grade Equivalent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>800 and above</td>
<td>A+</td>
<td>A+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>750-799</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>A</td>
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<tr>
<td>700-749</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>B</td>
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<tr>
<td>650-699</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>C</td>
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<td>600-649</td>
<td>C-</td>
<td>C-</td>
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<tr>
<td>550-599</td>
<td>D</td>
<td>D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>500-549</td>
<td>D-</td>
<td>D-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>499 and lower</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>F</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Already have a good credit score?
Follow these tips to maintain it:
• Pay your bills on time.
• Keep track of your credit report.
• Don’t open new lines of credit.
• Keep credit balances low.
• Don’t close old credit accounts.

Not making the grade? Take these steps to improve your credit score:
• Request a free copy of your credit report. (annualcreditreport.com)
• Reduce your debt.
• Get current on past-due bills.
• Set up reminders to pay bills.
• Be patient.

For more information on this topic and more, check out cashcourse.org!

Graduating? Not sure?
Schedule an appointment with Tanya Dow or Faye Lamar to review your graduation requirements.

We can help you review your courses to date, identify outstanding requirements including upper division credits, liberal arts credits, hours outside the major, and more!

Call 315-267-2347 to make an appointment.
TRiO Student Support Services is a federally funded program which serves 200 eligible students throughout the year. The goal of the program is to provide the academic support necessary to help students remain in school and reach graduation.

Students are selected to participate in the TRiO program based on the students’ request for assistance and federal eligibility. Students may stop by 119 Sisson Hall to fill out a short application.

TRiO participants must have a need for academic support. They must be U.S. citizens and accepted for college enrollment. Participants must also meet one of more of the following criteria:

- Are a first generation college student, i.e. neither parent has a four year college degree
- Fall within income limit set by the U.S. Department of Education and verified by the TRiO office
- Have a documented physical and/or learning disability

TRiO Staff

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