

Fall Semester	Actions to take:
1-Aug	Make sure that your STARS , WesternOnline , and Google accounts have all been activated and are working. These are all vital components of communication between you and the university. Get a planner or use your Google calendar to keep track of your commitments. Topics to discuss with your support network include budgeting and finances; calling, texting, e-mailing, and visiting home; living with a new roommate; taking responsibility for your education. Note what textbooks are needed and order them (only if your professor states there is reading due the first week) or be prepared to purchase them the first week.
Week 1	Print out your schedule by logging into STARS and then going to "Student Class Schedule" in the dropdown menu on the left. Schedule are also emailed to your WIU email. You should note where each class meets, the time the class meets, what days the class meets, the syllabus if it's loaded, and the name(s) of your instructor(s). Purchase your textbooks if you have not yet. Check WesternOnline to see your courses that are using this online feature. Eat in the dining hall. Go to University events and meet people. Attend all of your classes! Check in with your support system at home. Walk around campus to find where all of your classes are - take a buddy with you so you can help each other. August 22 nd – 1 st day of classes.
Week 2	Keep going to class, checking your email, and WesternOnline daily. Go to the Student Organization Fair! Set and stick to a study routine. Connect with classmates; you'll have study partners and someone to contact if you miss class. If you are not enrolled in UNIV 100, think about signing up for a Building Connections Mentor . Don't forget to take care of yourself; visit Campus Recreation to see what fitness classes and equipment are available to you. It's okay to be homesick; talk to someone at the University Counseling Center . Check out Leatherneck Link and get involved!
Week 3	Visit the Writing Center , Library , and/or Student Learning Center for support and assistance; attend study workshops. Have you made personal contact with your professors? Have you identified any organizations and activities you want to be involved in? P.S. - Have you called those who supported you through high school yet to let them know how college is going? WIU Family Day is next week on the 17 th .
Week 4	Have you had an exam yet? Look back to do a critical evaluation and identify areas in which you can improve, both academically and as a student. Being a full-time student is like having a full-time job. Make sure you attend the Majors/Minors Exploration Fair to find some areas of study that interest you. Visit your Leatherneck Success Leader and/or your advisor to strategize ways for you to improve. They can help with time management skills, which are important to college success.
Week 5	You will receive a student survey this week. Fill it out so WIU knows how to better serve our students. This Saturday is Family Day. Check out the Office of Student Engagement for more information. Have you met with your academic advisor lately? Be sure to get on their schedule to meet with them soon. You can sign up for a time with your advisor or find their contact information here . Students tend to start missing classes around this time. Don't fall into the habit of missing class – your grades will suffer.
Week 6	Continue to attend classes. Early warning grades are being entered next week for those grades below a C. Check in with your professors and get your study routine down.
Week 7	Review your syllabi and start your preparation for midterms. You should also get a start on projects or papers that might be due later in the term. This would be a great time to get a care package from home or to make sure you are caring for yourself by exercising, talking about stressors, and socializing. Make an appointment with your advisor so you can register for Spring 23 in a few weeks.
Week 8	Don't be surprised if your first midterms are happening this week (maybe you even had some last week). In fact, you may even have multiple midterms in a single day. Scheduling your studying in advance helps you minimize your stress on days and weeks where you may have more than one exam. Visit the writing center again. Do you have classes planned out for next semester? Paint the Paws, a great WIU tradition, is this Friday to kick off Homecoming Week. Enjoy the fall break!
Week 9	It's Homecoming Week! Attend all the fun WIU spirited events and cheer on our Leatherneck football team Saturday to victory! Early warning grades are reported. Someone will contact you with resources for successful completion of your classes should you have a grade of less than a C in any course at this point. Check in with your professors about your progress in each class. Start or join a study group. Seek tutoring to improve understanding and grades in your classes. Registration begins in two weeks. The last day to withdraw from a class is approaching this coming week. Make sure that you have talked to your advisor and instructor if you are considering withdrawing from a course.
Week 10	This is another good time for a self-assessment. Are you sticking to your study plan? Are you caught up your reading? How are your papers and projects coming along? Are you getting enough exercise and sleep? Are there any habits you want to adjust going into the next five weeks? The 30 th is the last day to drop a 16-week course. You can learn a lot about all of this and more at Academic Support .
Week 11	Registration begins this week! Double check your registration day and time again on STARS so that you know exactly when you are able to register.
Week 12	Now begins the last stretch of the semester. Working on the bulk of any final projects, papers, or presentations you have due at the end of the semester now will save you more time to study for finals later on. The library may have extended hours. Establish a study plan if you do not already have one.
Week 13	Note that Thanksgiving Break does not count as an academic week. Have you made plans for the break? If you are staying on campus, have you made arrangements? If this is your first holiday away from home, please make sure your residence hall staff/ WIU network is aware of this. Don't ignore your WIU email during this time!
Week 14	Continue going to office hours, tutoring, and anything else that is preparing you to end the semester successfully. Visit the Student Learning Center to connect with resources to help you.
Week 15	Get ready for finals week! If you haven't already done so, write down the time and location of all of your finals in several places: calendar, white board, phone, paper by your door, etc.. You can check this by looking at your syllabus and/or the course on WesternOnline . You can find more information about the final exam schedule and policies by going here . Develop a study schedule and plan ahead for how you are going to navigate finals week. Meeting with your Leatherneck Success Leader or academic advisor is a great place to sit down and develop your study plan! Final labs, papers, and projects are often due this week. Another great time to get some snacks and well-wishes to get through finals week!

Finals Week	Show up to your final 5-10 minutes early to give yourself a chance to get settled and relaxed before your exam. Your final grades will be available on STARS and will be e-mailed to your WIU ECom student account at the end of each term. If you have any questions or need any clarification on a grade you receive, follow up with your instructor(s) as soon as possible.
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Winter Break	Relax, volunteer, work for a few weeks...enjoy the time away from studies so you can recharge and plan for a successful Spring semester. Think about your major, career options, and study abroad possibilities. Because you've been on your own for a few months, you and your household may need some time to adjust to the changes.
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Spring Semester	Actions to take: (Also refer to Fall Semester above if you are first attending WIU in the Spring)
1-Jan	Review your schedule for Spring semester and contact your advisor with questions and an action plan, if it has changed since your last appointment. Review your financial plan; now that you've been through one semester, you have an idea of how to budget for college.
Week 1	Move back in to your residence hall, if you are living on campus. Classes start Jan. 17 th . Remember to buy your books for your new classes and do the same checking you did in Week 1 for fall semester. Open registration to pick up classes or switch classes ends on Monday of next week; check with your advisor before making changes.
Week 2	If you've identified any areas for improvement, start working on them right away so good habits are formed. Sunday is the last day for an 80% refund for total university withdrawal. Before withdrawing, check with your advisor who can connect you to resources that may assist and prevent you from needing to withdraw.
Week 3	Keep going to class. Attend some University or community events. If you didn't get involved in campus life first semester, now is a great time to check out student organizations and resources.
Week 4	Have you kept in touch with your support system at home? Are you eating in the dining halls?
Week 5	No class on Monday: Lincoln's birthday observed. It is important for all students to balance their academic lives with meaningful activities outside of the classroom. How are you spending your time when you are not in class or studying? Have you joined any clubs or organizations? Are you meeting new people and are you getting experiences that your classes don't offer? You can learn about many of the available student activities by visiting the Office of Student Engagement in the University Union or the Multicultural Center
Week 6	Midterm is only two weeks away! Self check: are you eating and exercising right? Are you balancing academic and social focuses? Have you utilized resources such as the Student Learning Center , tutoring, Success Coaches, and mentors? Have you attended any events sponsored by the Multicultural Center ?
Week 7	Early warning grades are open for reporting, Again, you will get a call to connect you to resources that can help you finish this semester successfully. Check in with your professors to see if you can improve and what advice they have for a strong finish.
Week 8	Midterms begin this week. Spring break is next week. If you are taking a trip, remember to balance this week with your academic responsibilities and preparing for a safe, fun trip.
Week 9	Advanced registration, if applicable, is open for summer and fall. Make an appointment with your advisor so you can register during open registration, which starts in two weeks.
Week 10	It is wise to meet with your instructors and advisor to develop a plan of how you're going to improve your grades by the end of the semester, if needed.
Week 11	Advanced registration, if applicable, is open for summer and fall. Make an appointment with your advisor so you can register during open registration, which starts in two weeks. Last day for Total University Withdrawal is this week.
Week 12	Working any projects, papers, or presentations you have due at the end of the semester now will allow you more time to study for finals later on.
Week 13	Open registration begins. This is a good time to explore your summer opportunities with the Career Center and your advisor to see if an internship or job experience will help you. Only three more weeks of the semester. If you have lived on campus all year, you will start setting up your departure activities such as checking out of the residence hall and taking care of any financial liabilities before you leave for the summer. Also, if you live on campus, begin packing up or have a plan, so there is no rush or items left behind at the end of the semester.
Week 14	Continue going to office hours, Leatherneck Success Leader, tutoring, and anything else that is preparing you to end the semester successfully. Monitor your meal plan – do you have enough to get through or do you have a high balance that you should use?
Week 15	Final papers and projects, as well as any allowed late work, are often due this week. Make sure you know your finals schedule and are prepared to end the semester on a positive note! Remember to eat right, rest well, and exercise.
Finals Week	Show up to your final 5-10 minutes early to give yourself a chance to get settled and relaxed before your exam. Your final grades will be available on STARS and will be e-mailed to your WIU ECom student account at the end of each term. If you have any questions or need any clarification on a grade you receive, follow up with your instructor(s) as soon as possible.

Summer Break	Whether you are working, attending summer classes, or only relaxing, use this time to recharge for a successful Fall semester.
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