



## Reminders for First-Year Students

**Note:** This is a list of suggestions, things to consider, and general reminders--it is not exhaustive, and it is not a list of requirements. We encourage you to think about everything on this list, and then have a conversation with your advisor about what's coming up next!

1. Meet regularly with your SSS Advisor to discuss your academic needs. Set aside time early each semester to visit your advisor. Make an appointment, and bring a list of questions and courses you are interested in taking. You are responsible for your academic progress, so come [prepared](#) each time you meet!
2. Develop & review an [Individualized Educational & Co-Curricular Plan](#) with your SSS & faculty advisors.
3. Learn and access all the tools on your WINGS account. There are online tutorials to get you started at [WINGS Help](#). Your SSS Advisor can answer many questions you may have.
4. One important tool on WINGS is your advisement report. Your AR lists all of the courses you need to fulfill your degree requirements. Check out online help: [Academic Advisement Report Overview](#). If you are thinking of switching majors, you can use a ["What If" Report](#).
5. Attend [SSS Workshops](#). Check out the [SSS Facebook Page](#) for workshop dates and locations.
6. Seek in-office [tutoring](#) for math, science, and writing. If you need a tutor for any other subject, talk with your SSS Advisor to request an individual tutor.
7. [Understand your GPA](#) and [calculate your GPA](#). Understanding how your grades affect your GPA will be important in planning to apply for scholarships, academic programs, etc. in the years to come.
8. Stay on top of that GPA! Evaluate your [Study Skills Strategies](#), and attend the [Secrets of a Successful Student workshop](#) to learn more effective study skills.
9. Planning to apply for scholarships? You really SHOULD because there are lots of opportunities out there. Check out the [Scholarship Resource Center](#) and [UWL Foundation](#) websites, and work with your SSS Advisor and the writing specialist on applying.
10. When is my bill due? When is registration? When are scholarships due? Use your investigating skills by checking things out on our [homepage](#), using the [Calendar-at-a-Glance](#), [Dates and Deadlines](#), and, if all else fails, checking with your SSS Advisor.
11. Looking for a part-time job? Check out [Student Employment Resources](#).

12. Develop good Time Management Skills:
  - Do a [Semester-at-a-Glance Planning Sheet](#).
13. Participate in class! Sit up front so your professor can learn your name and get to know you. If you sit up front, you're more likely to come to class prepared and feel more engaged in the classroom!
14. Improve your interpersonal skills by meeting new people. Get involved in something different. Reach out to people—there is a great deal you can learn outside of the classroom as well! Check out the [Campus Events Calendar](#).
15. Living on Campus? Check out what's available through [Residence Life](#). Commuting but still want to make connections? [5 Ways Commuters Can Make Campus Feel Like Home](#).
16. Sharpen your communication skills (oral & written) by taking Communications and English courses, or classes that require you to give class presentations. Employers tell us that communication skills are of vital importance when seeking a job. Check out the [Public Speaking Center](#).
17. Join campus clubs and student associations for personal development. Check out [MyOrgs](#) to find groups/activities that are interesting to you. Attend [Involvement Fest](#). Employers like “well-rounded” students who have demonstrated leadership and involvement on campus. Ask your advisor about the [SSS Leadership Council](#), [Peer Coaching](#), and other [Volunteer](#) and leadership opportunities.
18. Get to know your professors. Your instructors are your academic lifeline—make sure they know you by name, and use them as your resource persons. Don't be shy; use their established office hours to visit faculty and discuss problems and questions! Relationships with faculty and staff can go a long way to help you now and in the future! Click here for the [Campus Directory](#).
19. Broaden your perspective by attending: [cultural events](#), diverse classes, [art exhibits](#), [theater performances](#), and [campus organization meetings](#).
20. Learn how to manage your finances. [It Make\\$ Cents](#) is here to help you.
21. Explore [Major/Minor](#) options.
22. Start your career planning early: check out [Ten Career Strategies for Freshmen and Sophomores](#).
23. Check out [Study Abroad Opportunities](#).



OUR MISSION...YOUR SUCCESS!