



## Reminders for Sophomores

**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 ahead (and what's behind!).

1. Set aside time early each semester to visit your [SSS Advisor](#) and [Faculty Advisor](#)—don't wait until the day before registration! Plan to meet your advisors by the third week in October for Spring Semester registration and third week in February for Fall Semester registration.
2. Do you know what an [Advisement Report](#) is yet? Check out your AR in WINGS this semester to see how you are progressing with your general courses.
3. Understand how your [GPA is calculated](#) and [use the online GPA calculator](#). Understanding how your grades affect your GPA will be important in planning to apply for scholarships, academic programs, etc. in the years to come.
4. Not happy with where your GPA is right now? Here's what you can do:
  - Attend SSS [study skills workshops](#)! Learn study skills, note- and test-taking strategies.
  - Utilize math, writing, and science [tutoring services](#) provided by SSS staff and peer tutors.
  - Check out Counseling & Testing's [Academic Skills Groups](#).
5. Review and update your [Individualized Educational and Co-Curricular Plan](#) with your SSS & faculty advisors.
6. 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.
7. If you plan to apply for financial aid, check in with the [Financial Aid Office](#) for help determining your financial need, completing your [FAFSA](#), and other financial literacy services. Be sure to check out [It Make\\$ Cents](#) for more workshops and events designed to help you with all the financial concerns of college life.
8. Sharpen communication skills (oral and written) by taking [Communications](#) and [English](#) courses, classes that require you to give presentations, or classes with a writing emphasis. Employers tell us that communication skills are of vital importance when seeking a job.
9. Start thinking about declaring a [major/minor](#).
10. Planning on applying to an academic program? Review the prerequisites, requirements, and application process now to make sure you're not missing anything when the time comes.
11. Visit Career Services or meet with your SSS Advisor to discuss career options! Find out what you value. Start thinking about your [skills and interests](#). Discuss your career opportunities, and review related majors. Check out [Ten Career Strategies for Freshmen and Sophomores](#).
12. Check out your opportunities for relevant experience:

- [Internships](#) (check out Career Services' [internship information sessions](#))
  - [Volunteer Work](#)
  - [Part-time and Summer Jobs](#)
13. Conduct a [job shadowing](#) experience and/or [informational interviews](#) with a professional in an area of interest. Observe that person in a professional setting and learn firsthand what the position is like.
  14. Consider joining campus clubs and [student organizations](#) for personal development. Employers like “well-rounded” students who have demonstrated leadership and involvement on campus. Ask your SSS Advisor about volunteer and leadership opportunities.
  15. Study hard, get involved . . . but don't overdo it! There's a line between involvement and overcommitment—know your limitations and find that balance.
  16. 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 your faculty and discuss problems and questions! Relationships with faculty and staff can go a long way to help you now and in the future!
  17. Broaden your perspective by attending: [cultural events](#), [music performances](#), diverse classes, [art exhibits](#), [theater performances](#), and [campus organization meetings](#).
  18. Check out [Study Abroad Opportunities](#).



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