

CSURF Workshops/ Sept 2009

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- 1. Put your best foot forward academically from the very first semester.** A low grade point average gets harder to raise as the semesters roll by.
- 2. Get to know your professors and the expectations of each.** Some will want you to be brief, concise; others will prefer more details, more development. Try to look at this as a growth experience for learning to deal with different types of people.
- 3. Make sure your professors know you as a person, not just as a name in a grading book.** Participate in class discussions and do not hesitate to make use of faculty members' office hours. Knowing your goals, your experiences, and the way you think will put them in a better position to write strong and detailed recommendations for graduate school and/or job applications.
- 4. Participate from the beginning in one or more of the volunteer activities** sponsored by the Center for Leadership Education and Service or by clubs.
- 5. Seek occasions to share the knowledge you acquire,** both through informal discussion and formal tutoring, such as provided by various departmental honor societies.
- 6. Develop the art of listening in classes and in conversation with others.** If you listen well, you can respond more intelligently and effectively, and your adeptness at conversation will grow proportionately.
- 7. Plan a reading program that extends beyond the confines of your major and includes topics from a variety of fields.** In particular, include regular reading about current events, both here and abroad.
- 8. Cultivate your ability to express yourself well, both orally and in writing.** Attend lectures and workshops in various areas of interest. Use your reading program to become aware of a variety of writing styles.
- 9. Use every possible opportunity to increase your own writing proficiency and to develop your own writing style.** Put time and effort into incorporating logic, grammar, and rhetoric in written assignments. Try writing an article for *The Seahawk* or the Honors Program newsletter.

10. Be alert to opportunities for integrating knowledge garnered from different disciplines.

You might try forming a study group—"a community of scholars"—to discuss and share information from the various major fields offered at the college.

11. Search for a faculty member who has pursued a field of inquiry in which you may have become interested. Ask him/her for reading lists, then pursue discussion of the topic with the faculty member.

12. Endeavor to get involved in research under a faculty member during the academic year, and on-campus or elsewhere during the summers. These experiences will help you develop research plans or projects of your own.

13. Avail yourself of occasions for cultural exchange by making the acquaintance of international students as well as students of differing backgrounds from your own.

14. Incorporate the practical knowledge you gain through summer or part-time work, internships, volunteer services, and other work experience with the theoretical knowledge you acquire in the classroom.

15. Begin to keep a personal file of work experience, memberships and offices held, research activity, travel experience, etc. with some explanation or amplification to remind you of what you gained from the experience. This can be accomplished by using your portfolio in ways that are helpful to you.

16. Get involved in some activities to broaden your horizons: music, drama, athletics, etc., keeping in mind that your academics should always come first.

17. Blend study, activities, and service in such a way that you will be a broader, fuller, richer person because of your experiences at UNCW. In this way, you will enjoy your college years, at the same time becoming the person you have the potential to become.

Thanks to Maureen Forrestal, Gettysburg College