

# SECRETS TO SOAR

## Insider Tips for Auburn's Transfer Students Finishing Strong

As we turn the calendar to November it is hard to believe in just a few short weeks the semester will be over. This time more than ever it is important to be focused. Check out these tips to help you stay motivated so you can finish strong.

**Do a status check for each class:** It has been weeks since you were given your syllabus and it is important to take the time to review it and other course materials so you know where you stand in each class. Were there any class expectations like attendance or grading policies or details about assignments that were shared the first day of class that you should refresh yourself on now? It can be helpful to make a cumulative list of everything you have left to do so you can prioritize what needs to be done when and map out a plan so everything can get done. Also check in with your friends in your classes, because dates tend to shift around as the semester goes and you don't want to miss an assignment or test date change.

**Know where you stand on your grades and the remaining assignments:** Will your final exam be cumulative or just the last chapters? Is there anything you can get a jump start on now before all of your classes get busier? Is your grade lower than you were hoping? It can often be challenging to

change your letter grade in a class if you only have your final exam left. However, if you know now, you can put in that extra effort in your remaining assignments to help raise your final grade. By taking action early, you can be in a better place for your final exam. If you are unsure on where you stand, ask to meet with your professor during office hours.

**Go to class:** It can be tempting as you become more familiar with the professor or the material to feel like you can skip class. **DON'T!** Even if your grades are in a good place, the last several weeks of the semester are often make or break for your final grade. Don't let your high grades give you an invitation to slack off. You don't want to waste all of your earlier hard work. If you have been guilty of skipping classes in the past, you still have the chance to get back on track by attending every class, and participating in the class.

**Take care of yourself both physically and mentally:** Because there is so much going on at the end of the semester, it is easy to let it build up. Many students find themselves sick during this time because they are cutting back on what they need to be healthy (both mentally and physically). Make sure to allow yourself time to sleep, eat healthy and

manage the stress that may be building. Your health is important and it will help you accomplish what you need to do.

**Prepare for Finals:** I know you are thinking **ALREADY?** But yes! The hardest part about finals is that you will have a lot of tests in a short amount of time. The earlier start you can get the better. Starting thinking about when your exams fall and make a plan for how you will study. Reviewing your past notes throughout the month of November will help you avoid cramming right before your tests. You want to be in the situation where you just have to refresh yourself on the information during finals week and not relearn the material then. By starting early, you will be able to better retain the information.

**Don't be afraid to ask for help.** Your professor's office hours are there for a reason. Go see them if you do not understand a topic, grade, or assignment. They want to help you, but they can't help if you don't see them.

It can be daunting to think of all you have to do before the semester ends, but if you take each day at a time and stay focused, you can succeed through this challenge. And remember at the end of this semester you will have a month to relax!

### Dates To Remember

**Nov 16:** First eBill of Spring semester posted. It will be due Dec 8. Schedules are subject to cancellation for non-payment.

**Nov 20-24:** Thanksgiving Break (No Classes)

**Dec 8:** Last Day of Fall classes

**Dec 11-15:** Finals

**Dec 20-Jan 2:** University Closed

**Jan 10:** Spring Classes Begin



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### Transfer Student Spotlight

The key to the end is staying ahead. The number one rule is NO PROCRASTINATION! I know that it is easier said than done but it makes a huge difference. My first semester was overwhelming to say the least. You're at a new school, out of your comfort zone, some of your first time away from home... it can be a lot. Also by this time, you're running out of TigerCard/Tiger Club money and you're calling mom and dad for help. Take a deep breath, you've got this! The ending can be very stressful but there is help around you! Maybe you bombed that first test and you're stressed about not failing a class, talk to your professors. You may be having a hard time fitting in, strike up a conversation with the people in your

class (you all have to study right?) Trust me all of these struggles or worries happen to the best of us. Even Oscar winner Meryl Streep got turned down for her first movie but she took it and learned from that. Use the remaining amount of time in the semester wisely. Use Thanksgiving Break as a good time to relax and catch up on any studying you need. You only have about three weeks of class left and that time will fly by quickly! I hope these tips that helped me get through, can also help you. Just remember that we are family and we have your back. Now go get em' Tiger and go be as AUsome as you can be!



**Renaya Farrow**  
Is a Senior majoring in  
Public Administration

### Transfer Student Spotlight



**Lauren Collins**  
Is a Senior  
majoring  
in Mathematics

Towards the end of my first semester of Auburn, I had a hard time staying motivated in my classes. With Football season going on, the social scene ramping up as I met new people, and honestly just getting burnt out on all the homework and studying, staying on top of my school work became increasingly difficult. As midterms came and went, I was desperate to find a way to get my motivation back. One thing that I personally enjoy doing is exercising. I found that when I had a long day of class and studying, I could do some sort of exercise in the middle of my day that would give me a boost of energy and help me refocus. Whether your stress reliever is drawing, writing, music, or exercising, I advise you to find

some time in your day to do that thing. It definitely helps give your mind and body a break before cracking down on the books again. Whether finding a "stress-relieving activity" helps you personally or not, I encourage you to keep your eyes on the prize. Try to imagine how you will feel when all of your hard work pays off at the end of the semester when you get your final grades in. Especially after your first semester at THE Auburn University. You've worked so hard to get here, so don't slow down now! Make your mama proud and push through the last few weeks of school. Transferring can be difficult, but if you work hard now, it will only get easier!