

THE ORANGE AND BLUE

Volume 3, Issue 1

August 2011

Welcome to the Auburn Family and to your first semester of college! We hope you've had a great summer and are glad that you are here at Auburn. *The Orange and Blue* newsletter will be emailed to freshmen throughout the academic year. The purpose of the newsletter is to provide you with helpful information as you progress through your first year at Auburn. Again, welcome to the Auburn Family. War Eagle!



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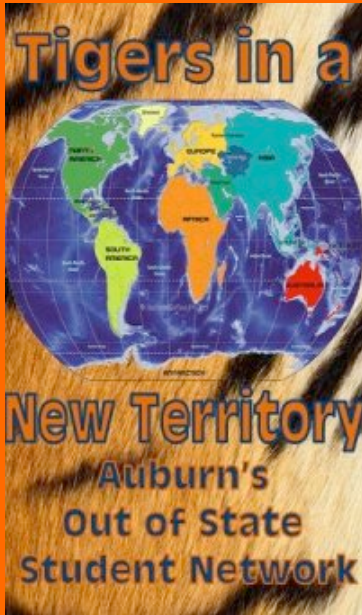
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AUBURN
UNIVERSITY

First Year Experience
189 Foy Hall
Auburn, Alabama 36849

TIGERS IN A NEW TERRITORY



Tigers in a New Territory is a group for AU students who may not call Alabama home, but are still proud to call themselves Auburn Tigers. Some of you and/or your parents may have attended the "Tigers in a New Territory" session at Camp War Eagle that covered such hot topics as transportation, residency, involvement, homesickness, and cultural differences. The goal of this group is for students from out of state to connect with one another and meet upperclassmen who have been in your shoes.

Believe it or not about 45% of Auburn students are from out of state and 15% of Auburn students are from outside Auburn, Georgia, or Florida. We hope to build a strong group of students proud of where they are from who can welcome other new out of state Auburn students.

Mark your calendar - Tigers in a New Territory will be hosting a Pizza Party during Welcome Week on Wednesday, August 17, 2011, in the War Eagle Food Court (inside Foy Hall) from 4 - 5 p.m. Please stop by!

Make sure you are friends with Tigers in a New Territory on facebook. For more information, please visit our facebook page: www.facebook.com/tigersinanewterritory or website at www.auburn.edu/fye/tnt.

SGA'S ORGANIZATIONS DAYS

Want to find out what organizations you can join at Auburn? Visit Organizations Days or O-Days on the Haley Center Concourse on Monday, August 29th through Thursday, September 1st from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Student organizations will set up tables along the Concourse so please drop by to see what Auburn has to offer.



The Auburn University Libraries are hosting a tailgate to showcase the resources and services they provide. The tailgate will include free food, the AU Marching Band, and Aubie! The event takes place on Friday, September 2nd from 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. in the Library on Mell Street. Make plans to attend!

BLOCK PARTY

Friday, August 19, 2011

6:30 p.m.

Student Center Green Space

Free Food & Inflatables!

Come find out about
UPC, SAA, Auburn Ignited, ODMA & FYE!

Hosted by DJ Holleywood



Welcome Week 2011 "Get Connected" will feature 80 events taking place August 13-20. Events include Kick Off, Casino Night, Pizza and Popsicles with the President, Convocation, Screen on the Green, Trivia Night, War Eagle T-shirt Exchange, Comedian Alonzo Bodden, Block Party, Tiger Talent and much more. All new and returning students are encouraged to participate. For a full listing of events, please visit the Welcome Week website at http://www.auburn.edu/student_info/student_affairs/welcomeweek/ and click on 2011 schedule. Stay connected during Welcome Week through Facebook and Twitter. Updates and information about many of the events will be found there. Follow Welcome Week on Twitter: twitter.com/AUWelcomeWeek or like it on Facebook: AU Welcome Week. Please call 844-4788 for more information.

Pitfalls

Your first year at Auburn can be quite overwhelming! The 2011 Camp War Eagle Counselors reflected on their own freshman year and have identified 10 pitfalls to avoid during your first year. Check out these pitfalls and how to avoid them:

Pitfall # 1: Skipping class

It will be tempting to skip class since you have newfound freedoms. While some faculty members may not take attendance, make it a habit to attend every class each day. You do not want to fall behind.



After finding out that some professors did not take attendance, I began to stop showing up to these classes. I figured I could find all the

notes and study a few days before the test date. Boy was I wrong! Attending class is crucial because the professor really knows how to explain the content best. In addition, you find out helpful things that will be on the test that you would not have found out otherwise.

Tom from Denville, New Jersey

Pitfall # 2: Hanging out with your high school friends

Your high school friends may want to stick together in a nice and safe comfort bubble. Be sure to branch out. Talk to the students in your classes, as well as meeting your neighbors in the residence halls, apartments, houses, and trailers.

One of my big problems freshman year was that I came to college with a lot of



friends from high school/church and didn't know how I was going to make new friends and have a true college

experience. At the same time, I didn't know how I was going to hang out with all of the friends I was coming with to Auburn. My best advice is to be as friendly and intentional as possible with people that you meet and that you already knew whenever you see them around campus or hanging out with them.

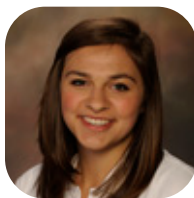
Don't take your time here for granted, nor your friends. It's a very tough balance to find but it's possible. I also realized that college is a time for a lot of change because people have freedom and that means people have to make choices. Choices you make show your character. Because of the choices that you make, the dynamic of friendships can certainly change.

AJ from Madison, Alabama

Pitfall # 3: Not initiating conversation with your professors

You may be in a class with over 250 Auburn students and are afraid to ask your professor a question. Don't be - your professors are here to help you! Visit during their Office Hours and talk to them before and after class. Their Office Hours will be listed on the course syllabus you receive the first day of class.

I was really intimidated by many of the professors during my freshman year. If they seemed intimidating in class, I was afraid they would think



my questions were dumb when I went to their Office Hours. One of my friends in my Econ class started going to

Office Hours, and I tagged along with her one day. I realized the professor was very helpful and friendly one on one and was glad to answer any questions I had.

Channing from Nashville, Tennessee

Pitfall # 4: Passing on Auburn's resources

Auburn's Office of Academic Support is designed to assist you in refining and strengthening the academic skills necessary for success here at Auburn. Academic Support offers free tutoring services, academic coaching and counseling, and peer led review sessions. Take advantage of these resources - they are located on the 1st floor of the RBD Library. For more information, check out their website: www.auburn.edu/academicsupport.

I took a Physics class during my freshman year. I thought it would be similar to my high school physics class, but I was sadly mistaken. When I began to struggle, I was too stubborn to go seek help from any of the Academic Support services thinking I could learn the material by myself. When things began to spiral out of control I ultimately stopped going to class thinking it was a waste of time which of course was a mistake. Looking back I wish that I had the sense to go seek help before my struggles got too far out of hand. So if you find yourself having trouble in a class - don't wait to go seek help from a tutor, the professor, or even a classmate, and don't ever think that skipping class is going to help your cause.

Alex from St. Simons Island, Georgia



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Pitfall # 5: Mismanaging time

In college, you are in control of your schedule. Many activities will pull you in different directions. Use your planner to keep track of your daily schedule - your classes, meetings, work hours, and activities.



When you get to college, there is so much going on and so many opportunities, it can be

overwhelming. The best way to avoid being overwhelmed is to get a planner and figure out ahead of time exactly when these things are happening, and especially to keep up with your classes. I know it is hard to go home and study for an hour or two when there is absolutely nobody telling you to, but you will be so glad that you learned everything from class as it is presented rather than cram before a test when the first round of exams start up.

Taylor from Pulaski, Tennessee

Pitfall # 6: Waiting until the night before a test to study

Be sure to keep up with the daily readings and homework in each of your classes. Reviewing your class notes each day will help you prepare for a test. By studying each day, you will not feel overwhelmed the night before a test. Also, reviewing your notes each day will help you identify areas in which you need additional instruction or further clarification.

In my first semester at Auburn I was so excited to be in college that for a little while I forgot that I was here at



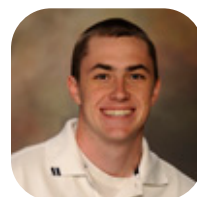
Auburn to be going to school not seeing how many friends, organizations or parties that I could go to so that I could be the popular one. One thing that I was notorious for doing was waiting until the day or two before a test and trying to study. After not being happy with my first few tests I realized that something had to change. I decided that every day after I left class I would look over the notes and go ask the teacher for clarification for things I didn't know or understand. This really helped because I was able to commit what I learned in class to memory faster and didn't have to worry about cramming later. Also for some of my classes I would make flash cards so that in between classes I could look over them really fast. These are the things I found beneficial my freshmen year!

Aurielle from Overland Park, Kansas

Pitfall # 7: Ignoring physical activity

Build in exercise time between your classes and social activities. Whether it is walking around campus with a friend or playing a quick game of frisbee, make time to be physically active. The Student Act has fitness classes, workout facilities, and intramural sports. For more information, check out www.auburn.edu/campusrec.

When I got to school in the fall of 2009, I had recently recovered from a sports injury and decided to take it easy and spend my time adapting to college life, but I ignored the physical aspects of it. I figured I was a fairly



healthy person and I had too much on my plate to waste time staying physically active. This was a huge mistake which lead to poor health and frequent illness and colds. Thankfully a suite mate of mine in the Quad was a regular gym member and invited me to join him. After just a few days of working out here and there (not even serious workouts) I felt much better overall and as I maintained physical activity, my health and mood definitely took a turn for the better.

Michael from Matthews, North Carolina

Pitfall # 8: Assuming your college workload will be like your high school workload

Know that you will have to make an adjustment to your time management while in college. Classroom discussion may be based on your assigned readings, so even though you may not have class every day, be sure to keep up with the assignments.



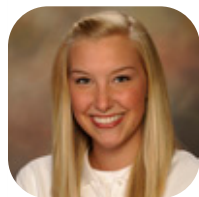
I breezed through high school without ever reading a book, going over notes, or studying for a test. On top of that I was super involved and

got very little sleep. I knew college would be different, but I figured with fewer classes and more free time it would balance out...WRONG! College professors expect a lot from you since you are now an adult and on your own. Tests are harder, and teachers expect you to actually READ the books. Not everything on the test will be something they went over in class, some of it could have come from the book.

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So my advice to you would be to a find a good balance. Go out and have fun, make friends, get involved, but don't forget to put in the hours studying and becoming besties with Ralph (the library). Kimberly from Birmingham, Alabama

During my first semester at Auburn, I assumed that the amount of effort that I put forward in high school would be sufficient in college. In high school, I was able to study for a test



the night before and still make a decent grade on it. It is not that way in college. I learned the hard way that the style of learning is much

different. More responsibility is placed on the student to learn outside of the classroom. Using a planner to make a study schedule would have benefitted me greatly my freshman year.

Another useful tip is going to see professors during office hours. Many times, they will pinpoint the main topics that students need to focus on in order to succeed in the class.

Jaelyn from Hoover, Alabama

Pitfall # 9: Not getting involved

Take the initiative to introduce yourselves to the students in your classes, those in your residence halls or apartment complexes, and those in organizations. Get plugged into something you enjoy doing. Reconnect with members of your Camp War Eagle group. SGA will be sponsoring O-Days (on the Haley Concourse from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. on Monday, August 29-Thursday, September 1.) O-Days provide all students the opportunity to learn about the many student organizations available at Auburn.

When I first came to college, I was so excited about getting involved and trying new things. I was so used to getting everything in high school and wasn't ready for rejection. After not making a few organizations, I quit trying out for clubs and concentrated more on my classes! After practicing mock interviews and getting settled in to college life, I started trying out for more things. I ended up getting into something I'm really passionate about and have learned so much about myself. Always be prepared for an interview and be yourself! College is all about trying new things but don't over load yourself!!! Nicole from Jasper, Alabama



Pitfall # 10: Pretending to be something you're not

In college, it is easy to reinvent yourself. You are suddenly around people who don't know you and haven't ever seen you before. It may be easy to fall into the habit of acting like someone you are not and giving in to things you wouldn't normally agree with in order to fit in. However, stay true to who you are. Know your limits, and be confident in yourself.



I was so nervous when I first came to Auburn because I didn't know anyone, and I just wanted to fit in, so I wasn't really myself. My tip

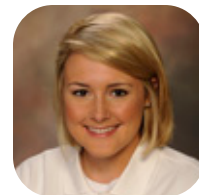
is to join clubs or activities you like and you will find people who you have something in common with; also, realize you're not the only one trying to make friends. It's okay to be super outgoing because that is how you will make friends. I joined a church and

felt more at home and met a lot of good friends. I also became best friends with my roommate, and I think that was because I was always myself around her; if you live with someone it's harder to be fake around them.

Haley from Tallahassee, Florida

Because I'm from another state, Alabama was a bit of a culture shock for me. As a freshman I struggled to fit what I thought was the southern "Auburn image." I remember thinking back on my Camp War Eagle experience and recalling something my Counselor said, "Don't conform to Auburn, let Auburn conform to you." Slowly I began to realize that I didn't have to leave the person I was in Texas behind to be a part of the Auburn family. Once you begin to see things that way, you can really start your experience as an Auburn man or woman and truly appreciate the unique atmosphere here at AU.

Leigh from Houston, Texas



FALL 2011 CALENDAR

Wednesday, August 17:
Classes Begin

Monday, September 5:
Labor Day Holiday

Wednesday, September 7:
15th Class Day
(Last day to withdraw from a course
with no grade assignment)

Thursday, October 6:
Mid Semester
(Last day to withdraw from a course
with no grade penalty)

Monday, November 21-
Friday, November 25:
Thanksgiving Break

Friday, December 2:
Classes End

Saturday, December 3-
Sunday, December 4:
Study/Reading Days

Monday, December 5-
Friday, December 9:
Final Exams

FROM THE SGA PRESIDENT



War Eagle and welcome back to Auburn! I hope you're excited to begin your first year on the Plains. As you get acquainted with your new home away from home, you'll continue to discover all that

Auburn has to offer. A lot lies ahead of you, but I encourage you to embrace and enjoy Auburn in every way possible. In these next couple of months, get involved outside the classroom. Stop by O-Days on the Concourse August 29-September 1 and check out the hundreds of student organizations on campus. Also, consider trying out for one of SGA's freshmen programs. Tiger Tuesdays applications are available online at auburn.edu/sga until September 1.

As always, please feel free to stop by the SGA office (AU Student Center, Suite 3130) or email me at klt@auburn.edu if there is ever anything I can help you with. We are constantly working to improve the student experience-we share in your excitement as you begin yours. Welcome to the family!

God Bless & War Eagle,
Kirby Turnage, SGA President

QUESTIONS?

Please contact the First Year Experience Office in 189 Foy Hall.

334.844.4501

www.auburn.edu/fye