

Parent Perspectives

Wear Red on Fridays!

You can support your son or daughter and the University of Louisiana at Lafayette by wearing red each Friday! Encourage your son or daughter to wear red on Friday's as well. It shows support for our university.

Still need that Ragin' Cajun Gear? Check out the wide array of apparel available at the University Bookstore. Located in the Student Union or online at <http://bookstore.louisiana.edu>

Inside this issue:

- Academic Success **2**
- Study Abroad **3**
- Study Alumni Association **3**
- Greek Life **4**
- The Writing Center **4**
- Advising and Scheduling **5**
- Contact Us **6**

University of Louisiana at Lafayette

October 2013

Homecoming 2013: Best (Homecoming) Week Ever

[Homecoming Events planned from October 27 to November 2, 2013](#)

As the university welcomes new freshman to the campus this fall, the UL Lafayette Alumni Association would like to invite all former students and graduates to participate in our Alumni Homecoming activities. Each of you are invited to experience our rich traditions and enjoy our Ragin' Cajun spirit.



There will be a Homecoming Mass at Our Lady of Wisdom Catholic Church at 11:00 a.m. on Sunday, October 27, 2013. That same day, the Alumni Association will kickoff Homecoming Week with a Ragin' Cajuns Bowling event at Lafayette Lanes from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. Teams of six will enjoy the company of fellow Ragin' Cajun Alumni as well as the Student Alumni Association.

On Tuesday (10/29) and Wednesday (10/30), local businesses and schools will join the Alumni Association in the Paint the Town Red competitions by decorating with vermilion, white, and Ragin' Cajun spirit. There will be an annual Tennis Tournament at Red's on Friday (11/01) as well as the Bill Bass Open Golf Tournament at Les Vieux Chenes Golf Course.

The weekend begins on Friday night in Parc International with the Downtown Alive! UL Homecoming Pep Rally featuring a performance by 5th Avenue. There will be an event-filled day on Saturday beginning with the Ragin' Road Race that winds through the Oil Center. Visit the Alumni Center to view the Homecoming Parade beginning at 10:00 am. Finally, the Alumni Hospitality tent opens to current members three hours before the big game where our Ragin' Cajuns will play the New Mexico State Aggies.

Academic Update

Many parents and students alike are concerned with academic progress in the first semester. Most students have completed several graded assignments and one or two tests in each course. Some instructors post grades on Moodle and others hand back graded work and expect students to keep track of their grades. If your student is not sure about the standing grade in a course, encourage her or him to visit the instructor during office hours.

Instructors have just completed the **second freshman grade check**. Your student will have received an email from Grades First if he or she is at risk of failing a course. Please remember that we have tutoring available in many courses and that both individual and group tutoring is available. OFYE is continuing to partner with the Academic Success Center to offer **workshops on academic goal setting and time management**. First-Year students will be encouraged to attend these skill-building [workshops offered this week](#).

Your student also has the opportunity to ask for guidance from his or her **UNIV 100 instructor or Peer Mentor** for any type of issue that he or she may be dealing with currently.

The Learning Center

Lee Hall,
2nd Floor

337-482-
6583

Coaching your student to Academic Success: The Learning Center

Students traditionally underestimate the amount of time they will need to schedule to do well in classes. Around midterms, many first-year students begin facing the realities that college is more difficult and they may experience a variety of academic difficulties.

October is Tutoring Month, and The Learning Center is offering extra incentives to get your son/daughter to come in and get the help they need! Four types of FREE tutoring are offered to fit the varying needs of UL students: Individual tutoring sessions which last 30 minutes; 1 hour-long Study Groups; 2-hour Supplemental Instruction (SI) sessions led by specialized tutors who also attend lecture with the students; and an Online

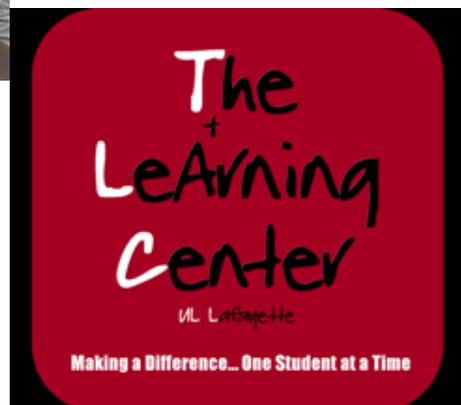
Tutoring chat available by visiting [The Learning Center website](#).

Being proactive about coming in for tutoring certainly helps students take learning into their own hands, and besides understanding the content better, tutors also share study tips and habits, test-taking strategies specific to particular courses, etc.

The results of tutoring have been impressive: students who come to SI sessions can earn an average of up to one-letter grade higher than students taking the same course who did not attend SI. The Learning Center had 4,435 student visits in Fall 2012. Please encourage your student to take advantage of this valuable resource!

The Learning Center is located in Lee Hall on the 2nd floor and is open for tutoring from 8am-8pm Mon-Thurs, and 8am-12pm on Friday. Students can call 337-482-6583 or drop in to schedule an appointment. Tutoring is offered in Math, Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Accounting, Psychology, Engineering, Spanish, and many more. [See the full list of courses here](#).

An important message to send to your student if they are struggling academically is that it is not too late to do well this semester. Aside from The Learning Center, encourage your son/daughter to form study groups, to read ahead of class, meet with their faculty during office hours, and increase the amount of time they are studying.



Freshman First Down Survey

Please take 3 minutes to fill out a [4 question survey](#) about Freshman First Down. We would love to hear from you!

Study Abroad: Ragin' Cajuns going global

Study Abroad provides students an opportunity to earn course credit while studying in a foreign country. Various programs are coordinated during the summer semester, including long-standing programs to Paris, France; Florence, Italy; London, England; San Jose, Costa Rica and many others.

In an age of increased globalization, members of university communities like ours need the experience of living in a different culture. If your child participate in these programs, you will find they will come back with a life changing experience—they will certainly have a wider view of the world in which we than when you first board the plane that will take you to Costa Rica, England, France, or Italy. We have a sizable number of students who learned so much and enjoyed their time abroad so much that they participated a second time in a different country. Students can earn from three to nine credits over the summer and will find their classes both interesting and challenging. Our courses are rigorous having been approved both by the appropriate department or director heads and by the UL Lafayette Study Abroad Program Committee.

Pat Mouille, Coordinator
(337) 482-5438
Griffin Hall 437
<http://studyabroad.louisiana.edu>

**Study Abroad Panel/Info Session
November 21, 2:30pm-4:30pm
Moody Hall 103**



Student Alumni Association:

The [Student Alumni Association \(SAA\)](#) is the chapter of the Alumni Association open to all students, in any major enrolled at the University of Louisiana. The main purpose of this organization is to instill in its members a life-long sense of commitment and pride for our University. Meetings are held at the Alumni Center's board room located directly behind the Alumni House. Becoming a member of SAA gives students the opportunity to network with members of the Alumni Association, and also provides great resume development. Networking occurs at events held year round such as homecoming events, tailgating, and the annual Spring Gala, to name a few. Discounts to local and national businesses are offered to members as well. This organization is a great way for your student to get involved and really learn about the University and its Alumni.

Visit the [Facebook page here](#), or the website in the text above to learn more!

Freshman First Down Survey

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Greek Life: Not what you see in the movies

Greek Life at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette enriches the college experience by encouraging excellence in academics, social skills, leadership, community service and personal growth, as well as fostering collaboration between Greek organizations.

On average, Greeks earn better grades and are more likely to graduate compared to a non-Greek UL student. We also get involved in the community both within the individual organizations and in collaboration with other

Greeks and other campus organizations. And we also promote personal growth, leadership development, networking with professionals, and alcohol and substance abuse education.

We know the stereotypes and it is really difficult to break that stigma. Until your son or daughter experiences it first hand, they will never know how different it is from the movies and they will never get the love, support and encouragement that comes with the brotherhood and sisterhood of Greek life.

Is your son or daughter interested? Have them visit <http://greeklife.louisiana.edu/potential-members> to find out more!

If you want to find out more, you can visit the parent information website <http://greeklife.louisiana.edu/potential-members/information-parents>

Office of Greek Affairs
Martin Hall 223
(337) 482-6272
<http://greeklife.louisiana.edu/>

Campus Resource Spotlight: The Writing Center

The Writing Center welcomes students from all disciplines and will assist students at any stage of the writing process:

- Helping students enhance their writing skills
- Helping students move from writer-based to reader-based prose
- Focusing on writing processes and the value of creating multiple drafts
- Helping students see strengths and weaknesses in their writing
- Empowering students to own their writing
- Nurturing creative ideas to students

The Writing Center
H.L. Griffin Hall 107
(337) 482-5224

<http://english.louisiana.edu/about-us/writing-center/>



Freshman First Down Survey

Please take 3 minutes to fill out a [4 question survey](#) about Freshman First Down. We would love to hear from you!

Academic Advising and Scheduling: Spring 2014

Advising for next semester officially started on October 14th and will end on October 25th. Be sure your students have set up an appointment with their individual academic advisor to talk about their progress, which classes they should take next semester to stay on track, and to answer any other questions they might have. Below is a screenshot of the Student ULink page, on the Student Tab and arrows pointing at what is important for students to know for advising:

Advisor Information– Students can click here to get their advisor’s name, office location, office phone number and email address. Since each individual college advises differently, we suggest they contact the advisor to ask how their college’s advising works and how to be advised.

University Holds– Before a student can register classes, all holds must be lifted from the students account. Types of holds can include Advising, Financial, Disciplinary, Parking Tickets, etc. When your student meets with their advisor, the advisor will lift the advising hold. For any other holds they need to have lifted, the student must visit the appropriate office on campus.

Registration Appointment– After meeting with their advisor, and having all holds lifted, students will be allowed to schedule classes starting at a specific time and date. This starting time and date can be found here. We highly recommend scheduling classes as soon as the appointment opens up so that a class they want or need to take does not fill up before they have a chance to schedule it!

Student Information System

| | |
|--|---|
| <p>Financial Information</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Financial Aid • Statement of Account(Bill) | <p>Grade Information</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GPA Estimator • Grade Report • Attendance and Grade Checks (All Freshmen, Sophomores & Athletes) • Transfer Credit • Unofficial Transcript • Grade Transcript Request Form |
| <p>Personal Information</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advisor Information • Student Online Advising (ONLINE MAJORS *ONLY* - contact Advisor first) • Official Addresses • University Holds • Emergency Notification System • Campus Volunteer Registration | <p>Registration Information</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Registered Classes • Registration • Registration Appointment |

Student Links:
What textbook does my course use?

Attention Mac Users: Early (pre 2.0) versions of the Safari web browser are not compatible with these programs. Please ensure that you are using Safari version 2+, or use a different web browser.

The Big Event: October 19, 2013. Almost 2600 volunteers. Over 7000 hours of service.



**University of Louisiana
at Lafayette**

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Experience

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Website: firstyear.louisiana.edu

Please Note!

Our next issue will be the
December 2013 issue. We will
not be sending one out for
November 2013.

"Go confidently in the direction of
your dreams. Live the life you have
imagined."

-Henry David Thoreau

Online Parent Guide
universityparent.com/lalaf



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OF
LOUISIANA
L a f a y e t t e™



WEAR RED