

University of Louisiana at Lafayette

Road Map Weekly

- **Week 1:** This is your first week of college courses. Finally, this day has arrived. You are starting a new stage of transitioning into adulthood and independence. It can be both exciting and a little intimidating. Spend some time to complete the following activities below so you have an expectation of the big picture and so you can begin creating good habits that will propel you towards a strong jump start on the semester.
 - Obtain an Academic Year Planner being handed out on campus the first two days of school. The planner is FREE courtesy of SGA.
 - Read your syllabi and mark all due dates on the Academic Year Planner.
 - Determine blocks of time where you have available to study.
 - Think about what organizations you can join by attending Get on Board Day on Wednesday. Look into professional organizations within your major or career path!
 - Attend all Welcome Week and [Cajun Craze](#) activities.
 - Check the [Student Survival Guide](#) from Academic Success Center
 - Wear a Ragin' Cajun red shirt this Friday and EVERY Friday
 - If you have questions about Financial Aid, counselors are available in the Conference Center Lobby
- **Week 2:** Woohoo! You made it through the first week! It wasn't that bad, right? Now, complete this week's tasks below so that you can keep the momentum going.
 - Create a [weekly calendar](#) to map out where your hours go each day.
 - If you live on campus, seek out and meet your Community Assistant (CA).
 - If you are a commuter student go eat in Cafeteria on campus to meet other students.
 - Visit The Learning Center (Lee Hall 2nd floor) to see which classes tutoring and Supplemental Instruction (SI) are available for you. Check out all campus [academic resources](#).
 - Attend [Cajun Craze](#) activities.
- **Week 3:** You have now made it to the third week of the semester. Good job! By now, you should have settled into a routine related to classes and study time. It is important to keep your momentum focused on being successful and not slacking off. It is better to be "ahead" than "behind" so make sure you stay up-to-date on your class reading assignments and weekly homework.
 - Start forming study groups with your peers for "hard" classes and build 1-3 study group meetings into your weekly schedule.
 - If you haven't already attend a [home football game](#) or a [theatre/fine art](#) event this week.
 - Be sure to sign up for [The Big Event](#).
 - Attend [Cajun Craze](#) activities.

- **Week 4:** Okay, now you are getting in a good groove with balancing your time wisely and learning about a couple of the resources on campus that will help you (Academic Success Center, library, and study groups). It is time to check-in with your professors to see how you are doing and what you can do differently to improve any problem areas. All UL faculty members are required to have open office hours to meet with you and help you with any concerns or to just get to know you. Please complete the below items this week to learn some new strategies about being a good student and having fun with other students.
 - Set up a tutoring appointment with Academic Success Center for any classes you may need help with. Go to tutoring tab on ULink to see what is available.
 - Your professors will put up a Grade Check on ULink for all First Time Freshmen. Check your grades and speak with your professors to follow up on your progress in your classes.
 - Talk to your professors about classes you seem to be struggling with. *Only 18% of freshmen with a failing grade at this point in the semester finish their classes with a C or better. Your chances go up significantly if you catch the problems early!*
 - Attend [Cajun Craze](#) activities.
 - Attend TOPS workshops and make sure you understand everything that has to do with [TOPS](#).

- **Week 5:** You should be feeling more comfortable with your classes because you have been learning new strategies for student success from The Learning Center and you have been sticking to your study schedule and meeting with your study group weekly to clear up any confusion about course concepts. Stay focused on being ahead, not behind! Continue to be up-to-date on your weekly readings and homework assignments. Make sure you are looking at your planner so that you can see in advance when assignments are coming due by not waiting until the last minute to start. Use this opportunity to learn some new study skills as you begin to prepare for upcoming midterms.
 - Begin reviewing for midterms
 - Learn the best ways to [study](#)
 - Check out the Academic Success Center's [Success 101](#).

- **Week 6:** You are getting closer to the midterm period and you should have had a couple of assignments due by now. So, this is a good time to focus on getting ready for midterm exams. The midterm exams/assignments are often worth a significant part of your total course grade so do not blow off the seriousness of these midterm requirements. Now is the time to put yourself in a safe spot by earning good grades on all your midterm exams and assignments.
 - Study for midterm exams
 - Have you joined at least one student organization? Consider one in your major or chosen career path. Check out the [Office of Student Engagement and Leadership](#) for a list of opportunities.
 - Meet with your professors during their office hours to discuss progress and areas of improvement. Either email or talk with each of your professors during class to set-up specific times to meet with them.

- **Week 7:** It is time to do your best and to show yourself how well you can do! Just focus on doing a good job in class this week and get your mind ready for this important milestone in the semester.
 - Complete midterm exams
 - Remember to do the following in order to be at your peak performance for midterm exams
 - Go to sleep early and get at least 8-9 hours of rest each night
 - Eat a good breakfast every morning so your brain has fuel
 - Snack on fresh fruits, vegetables and whole grains throughout the day to keep your energy levels high. Try to avoid high-sugar drinks and foods
 - Drink plenty of water so your brain is alert and hydrated
 - Review your notes, study guides, syllabi, and textbooks every night before your next exam
 - Meet with any study group members who want to prepare for your class exams
 - Schedule an appointment with a tutor in The Learning Center if you need additional support
 - Practice stress management exercises like yoga, soft music, aerobics, meditation or weight lifting
 - Arrive to class early so you can get any last minute questions answered by your professor
 - Avoid any stress provoking events that could distract you
 - Your professors will put up a Grade Check on ULink for all First Time Freshmen. Check your grades and speak with your professors to follow up on your progress in your classes.

- **Week 8:** Okay, the midterm stress and projects should be over for now... but stay focused on keeping your study schedule, meeting with your study groups, and staying on top of your readings and homework. Remember, it is better to be ahead, than behind. Motivate yourself to remain driven and finish the semester strong!
 - Advising begins. Set up an appointment with your advisor (assigned on ULink under the Students tab)
 - Last Day to drop a class with a grade of “W” is early this week!

- **Week 9:** Have some fun this week by attending another sporting event or a fine arts production with a different friend.
 - Attend a [sporting event](#) or [theatre/fine arts production](#). Try to go watch a different Ragin’ Cajun sporting event than the one you attended in Week.

- **Week 10:** The first part of the semester was spent getting you ready for a strong performance on your midterm exams and assignments. Now it is time to check-in with your professors again to see how well you did and what you can do differently to improve any problem areas. Take advantage of this valuable resource!
 - Meet with your professors during their office hours to discuss progress and areas of improvement. Either email or talk with each of your professors during class to set-up specific times to meet with them.

- **Week 11:** Now that you have had a chance to meet your professors personally during their office hours, let's spend this week making new friends and participating again in the student community. But don't forget to do this only after you have finished studying for your classes and have completed all your homework.
 - Attend another [sporting](#) or [theatre/fine arts event](#). Different from the ones in Weeks 3 and 9
 - If you are contemplating changing your major, meet with the [Career Counselor](#) in the Career Testing Center, 110 Lee Hall for guidance. Take the free CHOICES career test available.

- **Week 12:** Only one more month of the first semester is left. You have been doing a good job this semester with staying on top of your readings and homework.
 - Look at the [Final Exam Schedule](#) or on [ULink](#) (under my Academic Profile, Students Tab) to figure out when your exams will be taking place.

- **Week 13:** Okay, the finish line for the first semester of college is very near now! Can you see it? It is just around the corner. Hang in there and stay focused on finishing strong on your final exams and end-of-term assignments.
 - Start reviewing for final exams

- **Week 14:** Let's focus on doing our best on all of our final exams and assignments these next couple weeks. Dig into your studies and don't lose steam. You are almost there!
 - Find out when your exams will be and put them in your calendar. Go to [ULink](#) on Students Tab then Academic Profile.
 - Study for final exams

- **Week 15:** It is the week before finals. Do not get the end of the semester blues and blow off finals. You have done an amazing job so far this semester in keeping up with your studies. Use this week to REALLY study for your finals, especially the comprehensive ones that will start with material from the very beginning of the semester way back in August. Put in extra time studying this week, and don't forget to meet with your study groups!
 - Complete course surveys emailed to you from Dr. James Henderson
 - Keep studying and finish the semester strong

- **Week 16:** Congratulations!! You did it!! Just like an Olympic athlete trains daily for years to reach the big event and win gold on game day, you have been preparing all semester for this important week of the semester. Now, it is time for you to win gold and show everyone what you can do! Also, use this week to prepare yourself for next semester, and until then, Geaux Cajuns!
 - Complete your final exams and submit your projects
 - Are you still in the correct major to match your career goals?
 - Consider registering for [ACSK 140 “Career Decision Making” class](#). This is a 1 hour CR/NC course taught primarily online.
 - What is your course schedule for next semester?
 - When is the first day of class for next semester?
 - Is all your financial aid paperwork up to date?
 - Do you need anything for student housing or parking?
 - What questions do you have for your advisor or an academic counselor?

