TRANSITIONING TO THE AMERICAN UNIVERSITY

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Introduction

- Introductions
- Share your concerns
Advisor

- Feel comfortable asking your faculty advisor/coordinator for help.
- This person will schedule your classes and help you plan your studies.
- Be in touch with this person, email him/her with questions, etc.
- Check your department’s website for information on plan of study, course catalog, assistantships and internships.
Advisor and Plan of Study

- Remember to find the deadline to turn it in
- Departmental List Serves
- Graduate Studies Division List Serve
Classes

- Always attend classes.
- It is not only encouraged but expected of students to ask questions during lectures.
- Make sure to participate in class discussions.
- Don’t be late for your classes.
Classroom Political Correctness

- Be respectful towards other students and their opinions

- Watch your language in the classroom setting – your opinion is valuable, but do not offend others

- Sometimes *intonation* makes a difference.

- In your written assignments also make sure to be politically correct.
Blackboard Learn

- Become familiar with Blackboard Learn.
- Professors use this space to post your grades, post lectures and other materials.
- Make sure to participate in online discussions or blogs.
Campus Resources

- The Ohio Link – the KSU library can order books for you from other universities.
- Used vs. New Books, rent a book, etc.
- Career Services
- IT Services
- Transportation Services
- Counseling Services
- Computer Labs
- Legal Services
- Less Expensive MS Office for students
Academic Honesty

- Cheating is not accepted in any form! It is also negatively perceived by both professors AND other students.

- Professors often provide study guides that help students prepare for exams.

- Review the plagiarism policy.

- Use proper citation required by your Professors such as APA, MLA and Chicago.

- Personalize Research Consultations (PERC) are available in the KSU library.

- Make sure to cite your previous work.
Communication

- Feel free to talk to your professors after class.
- Professors wait for students during their office hours.
- It is acceptable and encouraged to email professors with questions.
- Professors often tell their graduate students to refer to them by name.
Tutoring

- If you are struggling with class material you should contact your professor sooner rather than later.

- You may want to look for tutoring centers such as: math lab, writing center, etc.

- Don’t hesitate to ask your classmates for help.

- Form study groups if necessary.
Testing

- Exam vs. Test
- Study Guide
- Essay vs. Multiple Choice vs. Fill in the Blank
- Quiz
- Assignments
- Reflection Paper
- Final Paper
- Participation
- Blogs
Free Time

- Check out the student organizations – you may find one that you will be interested in joining – it is a great way to find new friends.

- Graduate Student Senate (Gradfest, etc)

- Rec Center – it is free and a lot of fun! They offer classes such as: Yoga, Pilates, etc.

- Community: parks, kayaking, canoeing, etc.

- The university organizes a variety of events, activities for students free of charge.
Graduate Student Senate

- Monthly Meetings
- Gradfest – monthly – free pizza event 😊
- Graduate Research Symposium – April 19th
- Grants and Awards available for graduate students
Friends

- Our advice: find a friend (roommate, classmate) who is American or has been in the US for a longer period of time.

- In case of any questions, concerns, you should be comfortable asking this person for help.

- Always keep his/hers number with you.

- Conversation Partners

- Peer Mentor (EHHS)
Stores In Our Community

- Grocery Stores offer some international foods
- Home Market – they can order food for you
- Acme, Save a Lot, Wal-Mart, Aldi
- CVS, Walgreen’s, Drugmart
Questions?

Thank you.