

# First Year Student Newsletter

Volume 13.2

October 2008

Produced by  
**Julie L. Amon, Assistant Dean for First Year Students**  
**Steven P. Scherger, Coordinator for First Year Student Academic Affairs**  
and the Office of Undergraduate Studies



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## Greetings from the Dean

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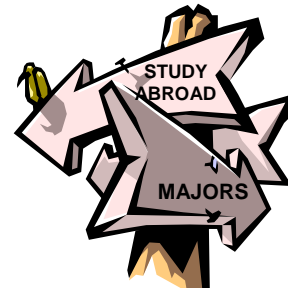
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It's hard to believe that it's already October. Homecoming has already passed and Fall Break is only weeks away. I hope that your fall semester is going well. I have enjoyed meeting many of you and hearing how your courses are going, what your interests are, and what you have gotten involved in on campus thus far. Steven Scherger and I are available on an appointment and walk-in basis in both the Undergraduate Studies Office as well as our satellite offices. In order to make an appointment, or find out when walk-in hours (<http://www.case.edu/provost/ugstudies/walkinhours.htm>) are each week, just call 368-2928 or stop in the office (Sears 357).

I hope that you are beginning the process of exploring your academic interests and making connections with First Year Departmental Representatives. Even though it seems as if school just started, the Spring 2009 advising period will begin on October 29<sup>th</sup>, so it's not too early to start making connections and working with your first year advisor to consider plans for next semester. SAGES 4<sup>th</sup> Hour Academic Information Sessions continue on October 13 and 15 and will be followed by an opportunity to gather even more *specific* departmental information at the Choices Fair on October 31. I look forward to seeing you all there!

I am also excited to announce a new program, **F.A.C.T. (First-Year Academic Campus Tours)**, that will begin this semester. F.A.C.T. will provide you an additional opportunity to learn about academic opportunities and guidelines as well as allow you to voice your ideas and concerns regarding your first-year experience at Case. Beginning on Monday, October 13, Steven and I will be hanging out around campus hoping that you will drop by to discuss issues important to you over lunch or coffee. **Be sure to check out page 3 in this newsletter** for times and locations for the next month. In addition to this new program, we will continue annual programs that have us visit your residence halls this semester to discuss academic concerns, and plans for your Spring Semester schedule. Of course, you are always welcome to make an individual appointment with either Steven or me. We are exciting to hear from each of you!

Within this newsletter you will see information about exploring your academic interests and different ways to get involved in academic, social, and leadership experiences outside the classroom. Further, you will find detailed information that explains academic policies, procedures, deadlines, and processes. You are responsible for understanding these policies so please make some time to review them.



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## Choices 2008: Exploring Academic & Experiential Opportunities Fair

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**Friday, October 31, 2008**  
**12:30 – 1:45 p.m. – Community Hour**  
**Veale Center**

### \*\* MANDATORY FIRST YEAR STUDENT EVENT \*\*

- Learn about Case major, minor, and program offerings
- Talk to faculty and student representatives from academic departments and academic student organizations
- Find out about opportunities to participate in department sponsored events
- Gather information to make an informed decision about declaring a major or minor
- Learn about opportunities to participate in Study Abroad, Co-Op, research and more
- Lunch will be provided at the event via a meal swipe

### Inside this Issue

- RUSS Office Hours
- SI Schedule
- Research Opportunities
- F.A.C.T. (First-Year Academic Campus Tours)
- SAGES Plenary (**mandatory first-year student event**) – October 13 and 15
- AP, IB and Transfer Credit and Your AAR
- SAGES Peer Writing Crew
- Midterm Grades
- How to Withdraw from a Class
- First Year Student Major Declaration
- Choices Fair 2008 – October 31 - Mandatory First Year Student Event
- Your First Year Class Officers and Residential College Reps
- Halloween at the Farm

# Supplemental Instruction (S.I.) and Group Tutoring Sessions

**SUPPLEMENTAL INSTRUCTION SCHEDULE FALL 2008**

COURSE	DAY	TIME	LOCATION	SI LEADER
<b>BIOL 114</b>	Tue	7:30-9:00 PM	Clark 302	Tina Rakowsky
	Thur	7:30-9:00 PM	Clark 302	Tina Rakowsky
<b>BIOL 116</b>	Sun	4:00-5:30 PM	Wade Tutoring	Melanie Stipp
	Wed	7:00-8:30 PM	Wade Tutoring	Melanie Stipp
<b>BIOL 215</b>	Sun	1:00-2:30 PM	Nord 204	Jillian Wang
	Tue	8:00-9:30 PM	Sears 372	Britta Kumley
	Wed	6:15-7:45 PM	MTHM 125	Jillian Wang
	Thur	8:00-9:30 PM	Sears 372	Britta Kumley
<b>CHEM 105</b>	Sun	2:00-3:30 PM	Wade Tutoring	Jessica Schneider
	Mon	6:30-8:00 PM	GUIL 323	Yashar Niknafs
	Tue	7:00-8:30 PM	Wade Tutoring	Lindsey Rubino
<b>CHEM 111</b>	Sun	4:30-6:00 PM	GUIL 323	Michelle, Michael, Jacob
	Mon	7:30-9:00 PM	Clark 205	Michelle Klapazki
	Tue	7:30-9:00 PM	Clark 308	Michael DeLibero
	Thur	6:00-7:30 PM	MTHM 225	Jacob Teets
	Wed 10/1 10/29 11/19	7:00-9:00 PM	Schmitt Auditorium	Michelle, Michael, and Jacob
<b>CHEM 223</b>	Sun	2:30-4:00 PM	Nord 204	Josh Hamilton
	Mon	6:30-8:00 PM	Nord 204	Brian Gill
	Wed	8:00-9:30 PM	Clark 302	Josh Hamilton
	Thur	6:30-8:00 PM	Nord 204	Brian Gill
	Wed 10/15 11/12	8:00-10:00 PM	Schmitt Auditorium	Josh and Brian
<b>ENGR 145</b>	Mon	7:30-9:00 PM	MTHM 125	Justin Brosi
	Thur	6:00-7:30 PM	Clark 205	Justin Brosi
	Tue 10/14 11/18	4:14-5:15 PM	Clapp 108	Justin Brosi
	Wed 10/15 11/19	7:30-10:00 PM	Clapp 108	Justin Brosi
<b>PHYS 115</b>	Sun	4:00-5:30 PM	Clark 302	Poorni and Jimmy
	Tue	11:30 AM-1:00 PM	Sears 480	Poorni Manohar
	Thur	5:00-6:30 PM	Sears 548	Jimmy Ibrahim
<b>PHYS 121</b>	Sun	7:30-9:00 PM	Clark 308	Jeremy and Monica
	Wed	6:00-7:30 PM	MTHM 225	Monica Taylor
	Thur	7:30-9:00 PM	Clark 308	Jeremy Harchelroad
<b>PHYS 122</b>	Sun	7:30-9:00 PM	Fribley Fireside	Gareth Kafka
	Tue	7:30-9:00 PM	Clark 205	David and Gareth
	Thur	11:30 AM-1:00 PM	Sears 354	David Karnick
	Tue 10/28 Thur 11/20	7:00-9:00 PM	ROCK 301	Daivd and Gareth

**MATHEMATICS SUPPLEMENTAL SCHEDULE FALL 2008**

COURSE	DAY	TIME	LOCATION	SI LEADER
<b>MATH 121</b>	Mon	11:30 AM-12:30 PM	Yost 321A	Rachel S.
	Mon	6:30-8:00 PM	Wade	Nikki and Scott
	Mon	8:00-9:30 PM	Tutoring	Rachel P.
	Tue	12:30-1:30 PM	Yost 321A	Rachel S.
	Tue	1:30-2:30 PM	Yost 321A	Zac
	Wed	11:45 AM-12:45 PM	Yost 321A	Rachel P.
	Wed	4:00-5:00 PM	Yost 321A	Nikki
	Thur	12:00-1:00 PM	Yost 321A	Scott
	Thur	1:30-2:30 PM	Yost 321A	Zac
	Thur	6:30-8:00 PM	Wade	Zac
	Thur	8:00-9:30 PM	Tutoring	Rachel S., Scott
	Fri	11:45 AM-12:45 PM	Yost 321A	Rachel P.
<b>MATH 122</b>	Fri	4:00-5:00 PM	Yost 321A	Nikki
	Sun	6:00-7:00 PM	Yost 321A	Alex
	Mon	11:30 AM-1:00 PM	Yost 321A	Ari
	Mon	8:00-9:30 PM	Wade Tutoring	Ari, Catherin, Charles, Pegg
	Tue	9:00-11:15 AM	Yost 321A	Charles
	Tue	10:00-11:00 AM	Yost 321A	Catherine
	Tue	2:00-3:00 PM	Yost 321A	Alex
	Wed	4:00-5:00 PM	Yost 321A	Catherine
	Thur	11:45 AM-1:00 PM	Yost 321A	Ari
	Thur	2:45-4:00 PM	Yost 321A	Peggy
	Thur	6:30-8:00 PM	Wade Tutoring	Alex
	Fri	12:30-1:45 PM	Yost 321A	Peggy
<b>Math 125</b>	Mon	2:00-3:00 PM	Yost 321A	Rebecca
	Mon	6:30-8:00 PM	Wade	Alex, Matt, Rebecca, Julie
	Tue	8:30-9:45 AM	Yost 321A	Alex
	Tue	10:00-11:00 AM	Yost 321A	Matt
	Wed	12:45-2:15 PM	Yost 321A	Kyle
	Wed	2:15-3:15 PM	Yost 321A	Alex
	Thur	8:30-11:00 AM	Yost 321A	Steven
	Thur	11:00 AM-12:00 PM	Yost 321A	Matt
	Thur	8:00-9:30 PM	Wade	Kyle, Julie
	Fri	12:30-2:00 PM	Yost 321A	Steven
	Fri	2:00-3:00 PM	Yost 321A	Rebecca

**GROUP TUTORING SCHEDULE FALL 2008**

COURSE	PROFESSOR	GROUP TUTOR	DAY	TIME (PM)	LOCATION
<b>ECON 102</b>	Mastrogiacomì	Kaitalin Blankenship	Wed	4:30-5:30	ROCK 306
		Prina Blankenship	Thu	4:30-5:30	ROCK 306
	Talu	Joe Obbish	Mon	5:00-6:30	Sears 548
<b>ECON 103</b>	Murphy	Monica Schager	Tue	7:00-8:00	GUIL 323
		Neel Agarwal	Thu	7:00-8:00	GUIL 323
	Lussier	Neel Agarwal	Tue	7:00-8:00	Sears 372
		Neel Agarwal	Thu	7:00-8:00	Sears 372
<b>PHYS 123</b>	Covault	Yvette Cendes	Thu	9:00-10:00	Clark 302
		Yvette Cendes	Sun	7:00-8:00	Clark 302



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**“Exploration of Academic Opportunities:  
The Major and Career Connection”**

**Monday and Wednesday, October 13 and 15, 12:30 – 1:45 p.m.  
Strosacker Auditorium**

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On Monday and Wednesday, October 13 and 15, from 12:30 – 1:45 p.m., a **mandatory SAGES Plenary Session** will be held for all First-Year Students in Strosacker Auditorium. The theme of the session will be to discuss academic and career decision-making processes and the resources available at Case to help you with it. Upperclass students will discuss their own academic and career exploration. Be sure to ask our SAGES instructor/advisor, which day your SAGES section is expected to attend.

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**Career Center – 206 Sears Building  
Accessing Services and Career Counseling**

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The Career Center offers a variety of development workshops and events that are designed to have a transformational impact on students. These workshops and events focus on four primary career management skills.

1. **Self-Awareness**—Learning to appreciate one’s interests, abilities, and skills by understanding how these qualities relate to a choice of major career.
2. **Career-related Resources**—Identifying appropriate resources to gain in-depth knowledge of various job functions, fields, industries, and organizations for decision-making and career planning.
3. **Decision Making**—Utilizing career-related resources and committing to making purposeful decisions about choosing your major and career.
4. **Career-related Competencies**—Developing a career action plan and strategizing how to reach career goals, whether it be deciding to enter graduate school or the world of work, and then obtaining related experience.

To learn more about the resources and information available for you to utilize through the Career Center, visit:

<http://studentaffairs.case.edu/careers/student/services/>

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**“What Can I Do With My Major?”**

**Career Options for Arts and Sciences Majors  
Tuesday, October 28, 11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m., Nord 410**

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“What can I do with my major?” Wrong Question! You should be asking “What CAN’T I do with my major!” Don’t be overwhelmed by defining your career options with a liberal arts degree. This workshop will help you begin the process of identifying your transferable skills, where you want to use them, and how to start the career decision-making process.

Registration for this workshop can be accessed at:

<http://studentaffairs.case.edu/careers/student/events/13377.calx>

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**Major Tips for Major Decisions!  
Choosing a Major—What You Need to Consider  
Thursday, October 30, 11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m., Nord 410**

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Don’t stress out about choosing a major. Make choices on good information about yourself, the work of work and how the Career Center can support you in the process. Learn about the four phase plan, where you fit in the plan, and how self-awareness and knowledge of the world of work can help clarify your career choices.

Registration for this workshop can be accessed at

<http://studentaffairs.case.edu/careers/student/events/13378.calx>

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**R.U.S.S. Office Hours  
Monday – Wednesday, 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.  
Wade and Fribley Commons**

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The R.U.S.S (Residential Undergraduate Studies Satellite) Offices in Wade and Fribley provide students the opportunity to meet with a representative from the Office of Undergraduate Studies regarding academic concerns, withdrawing from a class, getting connected to academic opportunities, or other quick questions.

First Year Dean Julie Amon and Steven Scherger, Coordinator for First Year Student Academic Affairs are typically available on Monday and Tuesday nights in the Wade Commons R.U.S.S. Office, which is located in the offices behind the Wade Area Office. To see the weekly schedule of all the Dean’s and representatives from Undergraduate Studies, visit:  
<http://www.case.edu/provost/ugstudies/walkinhours.htm>

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**F.A.C.T. (First-Year Academic Campus Tours)  
Various Locations and Times (See Below)**

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Your experiences, perspectives and concerns are always of interest to Steven and me, the first-year student administrators in Undergraduate Studies (UGS). In addition to serving as academic resources for you, we are very interested in hearing about your experiences as a student at Case Western Reserve University. In order to give you another opportunity to learn about the opportunities here at Case and to share your perspective about what is like to be a Case student, the Undergraduate Studies Office is excited to announce the creation of **F.A.C.T. (First-Year Academic Campus Tours)**.

In addition to the current opportunities to meet with Steven and me through individual appointments and events held in your residence halls, F.A.C.T. will give you the opportunity to speak about your experiences at Case with other first-year students and us in a casual atmosphere over lunch, breakfast, or coffee. The first of these sessions will occur Monday, October 13, from 5:00 - 6:00 p.m. at Starbucks in the North Residential Village. A complete listing to times and locations for the next month are provided below.

Although light refreshments and snacks will be provided by UGS during F.A.C.T. sessions, students are welcome to bring their own food and drink, including bag lunches.

**Monday, October 13, 5:00 – 6:00 P.M.**  
Starbucks—North Residential Village

**Friday, October 17, 12:30 – 1:45 P.M.**  
Nord Atrium

**Thursday, October 23, 11:30 A.M. – 1:00 P.M.**  
Thwing Atrium

**Monday, October 27, 5:00 -6:00 P.M.**  
Starbucks—North Residential Village

**Tuesday, November 4, 11:30 A.M. – 1:00 P.M.**  
SAGES Café—Crawford

**Thursday, November 6, 9:30 – 10:30 A.M.**  
Nord Atrium

**WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU THERE!!**

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### SAGES Peer Writing Crew

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The SAGES Peer Writing Crew can assist you at any stage of the writing process, whether you are generating ideas, composing a first draft, revising, or responding to an instructor's comments. Please note that the Crew works only with undergraduate students. Graduate and professional students are requested to make appointments with the Writing Resource Center.

The Crew members are undergraduates who have proven themselves as writers in their SAGES seminars. They include students from the College of Arts and Sciences, the School of Engineering, and the Weatherhead School of Management.

There are three ways to contact the SAGES Writing Crew:

1. **AOL Instant Messenger.** Sunday-Thursday from 9:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. a member of the Crew will be available on AIM, screen name SAGESWritingCrew. For grammatical questions, writing advice, thesis help, anything, send a message and get immediate feedback!
2. **Email Dropbox.** If you need help with a paper and are unable to make an appointment, you can now submit drafts online. To have a Crew member review your papers, send them as email attachments to [sageswritingcrew@gmail.com](mailto:sageswritingcrew@gmail.com) (please use your first and last names as the subject line, and include your name in the attachment as well). As always, we won't do your work for you, but we will offer advice as soon as we can.
3. **One-on-One Appointments.** In addition to our new services, Crew members are of course still available for one-on-one appointments. Go to [casewconline.com](http://casewconline.com) to schedule one today!

Also check out the Crew's online writing guide *Beyond Typing: The Students' Guide to Writing* at <http://studentaffairs.case.edu/education/resources/sagesguide/>

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### Writing Resource Center

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The Writing Resource Center (WRC) at Case Western Reserve University provides supplemental, discipline-specific writing instruction to students at all levels as the university. Our writing consultants work one-on-one with students on a wide variety of projects to help them become better writers on their own. We encourage visits from students at any stage of the writing process, from brainstorming and drafting, to revising and organizing, to sharpening expression. While we also work with students on issues of mechanics and grammar, *we are not a proofreading service.*

#### Writing Center Hours:

WRC hours are 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday in Bellflower Hall. Students may schedule appointment at any of the WRC locations through the [WC Online Scheduling System](#).

#### WRC Locations:

The Writing Center is located in Room 104, Bellflower Hall. We also have satellite locations on the 4<sup>th</sup> floor of Nord Hall, the 1<sup>st</sup> floor of Kelvin Smith Library, and in the SAGES Café.

#### Writing Workshops:

The WRC will offer three in-house Writing Workshops on issues of importance to first-year and other writers. All workshops will be held in Nord Hall on Fridays from 12:30 a.m. -1:45 p.m.

##### **Workshop—Research & Documentation**

Friday, October 24  
Nord 410

##### **Workshop—Preparing a Writing Portfolio**

Friday, November 14  
Nord 410

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### Time Management, Reading Efficiency, Note-taking Strategies, Test-taking Strategies, and More...

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If your high school study strategies aren't enough and you would like to find better ways to study, make an appointment to see a study skills specialist from the office of **Educational Services for Students**. ESS staff will help you find the best way for you to study by looking at your learning style preferences and your fall schedule. Visit [ess.case.edu](http://ess.case.edu) or call 368-5230 to schedule an appointment

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### Stress Management

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Feeling stressed? Making the transition to college can be stressful, especially for first-year students. Juggling homework, staying up late, trying to maintain a balance between study time and recreation, roommate issues, relationship problems, and test anxiety are many common causes of stress.

Some stress in your life is not necessarily a bad thing; however, if you feel you would benefit from learning how to manage stress better, several tips can be found at <http://studentaffairs.case.edu/counseling/counseling/links.html>

If you would like to meet with some one to discuss your stress you may contact **University Counseling Services** to schedule an appointment by calling 368-5872 or stopping by Sears 201.

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### New Presentation Skills Programs Educational Services for Students (ESS)

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Educational Services for Students (ESS) introduces two new programs to enhance your skills as a student. Prepare, Practice, PRESENTATION will help you create a more powerful presentation as well as perfect the delivery.

#### Preparing Your Presentation

Sessions Offered on Tuesdays  
October 14, November 11, and November 18  
4:00 – 6:00 p.m. in the PDELIC Lab, Sears 4<sup>th</sup> Floor

#### Practicing Your Presentation

Sessions Offered on Fridays  
October 10, November 14, and November 21  
4:00 – 6:00 p.m. in the Sears 480  
(Option to have your presentation video recorder for further review will be offered in this session.)

To register for the sessions you would like to attend, visit <http://studentaffairs.case.edu/education/resources/presentation.html>  
Questions may be addressed to [present@case.edu](mailto:present@case.edu).

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### Academic Advisement Reports (AARs) and AP, IB and Transfer Credit

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Academic Advisement Reports (AARs) are generated by the Office of Undergraduate Studies for all students and can be accessed through SIS. The ARR documents progress toward degree completion. It lists completed courses in addition to remaining courses. This document will become an even more important resource after you declare your major. **As a first semester student, you should check your AAR especially if you anticipate earning AP, IB or transfer credit.**

**We have posted all AP and IB credit we have received at the publication of this Newsletter. Transfer credit has been posted for all students who submitted all of the necessary paperwork before the beginning of the semester.** If you feel that you are missing earned credit, please contact Steven Scherger or Dean Julie Amon so one of us may check into it.

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### Withdrawing from a Course

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As a first year student subject to the First Year Student Withdrawal Policy, you may withdraw from a course(s) up until the last day of classes - - this fall, that is **December 5, 2008**. In order to withdraw from a class, **you must complete a Drop/Add Form (available in Sears 357, 24-Hour Study Room in Wade, Fribley, or Yost 110) and get the signature of your advisor.** Once that is complete, **come to the Office of Undergraduate Studies in Sears 357 for a Dean's signature.** **After you secure a Dean's signature, you must take the form to the Registrar's Office in Yost 110 for processing.**

Before you seek approval for a withdrawal, please take the time to reflect and review the following issues:

- Why are you withdrawing from this course? How are the rest of your courses going this semester? How do you feel about the withdrawal?
- Have you talked to your professor about your progress/success in the course?
- Have you reviewed the syllabus? Do you know what your chances for improved success are in the course?
- Have you taken advantage of support resources: professors' office hours, tutoring through ESS, SI's, etc.
- Have you thought about how this withdrawal will impact your plans for next semester? Will this withdrawal have an impact on your degree completion?
- Have you considered if Pass/No Pass is an appropriate option? (See below.)

First year students who withdraw from a course in their first two semesters of full time enrollment will not have the withdrawn course listed on their official transcript. However, the transcript will indicate all attempted hours, including those representing a course(s) that was withdrawn.

This policy is unique to first year students and is at times referred to as "freshman forgiveness" although there is no real policy known by this name. In previous years, grades of F were removed from the transcripts of first year students and those Fs were not calculated into cumulative GPA. **That policy is no longer in existence. Grades of F are calculated into cumulative GPA and are listed on the transcripts of all students.**

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### Pass/No Pass

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If you are a full-time student (enrolled in 12 credit hours) in good academic standing you have the option of electing to have **one course** graded on a Pass/No Pass basis. **In order to do this, the course must NOT:**

- Be a course required for your SAGES General Education/Core Requirements
- Be a course required for an intended major or minor (i.e. The Pass/No Pass option may only be used for Open Electives.)

**The Pass/No Pass option may be exercised by completing an on-line form with the Office of Undergraduate Studies (which will be posted in the next couple of weeks on the UGS's main web page at <http://www.case.edu/provost/ugstudies/undstud.htm>) before 5:00 p.m. on the last day of classes – December 5, 2008.**

Instructors are not notified of a student's use of this option. They are required to submit evaluative grades for all students and these are converted to Pass/No Pass in the Registrar's Office. Grades of P earn credit but are not calculated into the cumulative GPA. Grades of NP do not earn credit and are not calculated into the cumulative GPA.

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### Maintaining Academic Good Standing

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Academic standing comprises two factors: credit hours earned and GPA. To maintain good academic standing at the end of the first semester, a first year student must earn **at least 9 credit hours with a 1.70 GPA. By the end of the first year, students must earn a total of 21 credit hours with a 1.75 GPA.** A student who does not meet these minimum requirements will be placed on academic probation.

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### Fall Midterm Grades

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Midterm grades will be submitted by your faculty on October 20<sup>th</sup>. Shortly thereafter you should log on to your SIS account to view these grades. Midterm grades can be viewed under the **Term Information** sub-tab under the **Enroll** tab. Midterm grades are not mailed to you or your parents, nor are they part of your official grade point average.

Your first year advisor will review your midterm grades. **Please make sure that you and your advisor set up a time to discuss your midterm grades and your overall progress thus far in the semester.** Midterm time is a good time to pause and reflect on your academic progress and decide if you need to make any changes to your study strategies. Please review the following list of tips and see if any might be appropriate for you.

- Talk to your professors regularly during office hours to ask questions and to get to know him/her. If you are not happy with your performance on an assignment, ASK HIM/HER WHAT HAPPENED!!
- Use SI sessions if available.
- Use the FREE tutoring services provided by Educational Services for Students (ESS). Check out FREE tutoring resources at <http://studentaffairs.case.edu/education/resources/tutoring/>. ESS staff will also meet with you individually to assess your individual time management and study strategies. ESS can be contacted at 368-5230 or in Sears 470.
- Reflect on the amount of time you are spending "studying." Is it enough? Are you studying during the time of day at which you are most alert? Could you use your study more efficiently and effectively?
- Consider forming a study group with your peers.

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### Fall Final Exams Schedule

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Be sure to consult your syllabi and the final exam schedule. Final exam dates will not be altered to accommodate travel plans. You can find the Final Exam Schedule on the Registrar's website at <http://www.case.edu/provost/registrar/exams/exam2088.html>. Make sure you confirm your exam schedule and make your travel plans accordingly.

12/5	Last Day of Classes
12/8, 12/12	Reading Days
12/9	Final Exams Begin
12/17	Final Exams End

No student will be required to take more than two final examinations on a single day. A student who has three final examinations scheduled for a single day should go to the Office of Undergraduate Studies and obtain the assistance of Jeff Wolcowitz, Dean of Undergraduate Studies in arranging to take one of those examinations on an alternative day during the final examination period. Similarly, a student with conflicting examinations should seek the assistance of the Dean Wolcowitz in arranging to have the time of one examination changed.

**Major Declaration Begins November 3<sup>rd</sup>**

Most students declare a major by the end of their first year. However, students still in the process of exploring academic options are not required to declare within this time frame. It is important to recognize that in order to have a successful and engaged first year experience, all first year students should work toward the clarification of academic interests. **First year students who are ready to declare a major may begin to do so on November 3, 2008.\***

**YOUR MAJOR CAN BE CHANGED IF YOU CHANGE YOUR MIND LATER.** If you change majors later on, that's fine -- many students do change (or add) majors as they discover new interests. It's also OK to change your mind later and "undeclare." **IF YOU'RE TRULY UNDECIDED**, continue to explore, to talk with your advisor and other faculty members, and to use the resources of the Career Center (Sears 206, 368-4446). So long as you are actively engaged in exploring your interests and in making a decision, you can declare your major in the future. You should not be concerned about making a "wrong" decision about declaring a major. However, the best decision to make is an informed decision, so be intentional about talking to people, reviewing information, and understanding requirements before you make a decision. The advantage of declaring a major is the close and formal connection that is established between students and academic departments. That being said, all students are encouraged to seek advice from faculty in departments for which they have an interest regardless of major declaration status.

Carefully review the procedures listed below in order to complete the declaration process. Students who declare a major by the first week of November will likely be able to meet with their new departmental advisor prior to spring semester registration.

1. Obtain the Major Declaration Form\*\* in the Office of Undergraduate Studies, Sears 357 (also available in Wade and in Fribley), and take the form to the department representative in your intended major for his/her signature and assignment of a major advisor. A list of representatives will be available at <http://www.case.edu/provost/ugstudies/resources.htm> and posted outside of Sears 357. It will also be available in the forthcoming 2008-2009 Handbook for Undergraduate Studies.
2. All students must select which General Education/Core Requirements they are following. Your matriculation year must also be entered.
3. Students interested in Pre-Medicine/Pre-Dentistry and/or Pre-Law should be sure to mark the respective boxes on the declaration form.
4. Once completed, bring the yellow form to the Office of Undergraduate Studies, Sears 357. *The declaration of major is not official unless it is submitted to the Office of Undergraduate Studies.*

\* Entering Nursing students do not have to declare their major.

\*\* A separate form must be completed for each major that you declare.



Fall Break  
Oct. 20th & 21st

**First Year Class Officers and USG Hall Representatives**

Congratulations to the members of the first year class who have already assumed leadership positions. Please be sure to get to know your class leaders. Talk to them about ideas that you have for the betterment of the class and the campus as well as any concerns that you might have. They represent you, so get to know them!

**President:** Matt Jurcak  
**Vice President:** Nan Jiang  
**Treasurer:** James Petras  
**Secretary:** Karen Hoang

**Cedar Residential College Representatives**

- Jesal Shah
- Vahagn Yeranossian
- Wenjun Zhang

**Juniper Residential College Representatives**

- Matthew Napfel
- Divya Aggarwal
- Ryan Carr

**Mistletoe Residential College Representatives**

- Megha Patel
- Linn Ceylan Atesoglu
- Johnny Wright

**First-Year Commuter Representative**

- Karen Hoang



**The 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Halloween at the Farm**  
**Saturday, November 1, 2008, 5:00 – 10:00 p.m.**  
**Squire Valleevue Farm**

What could be better than spending Halloween at Squire Valleevue Farm? This annual tradition brings the entire Case community together, including faculty, staff, students, alumni, and their families. Activities are free and in the past have included:

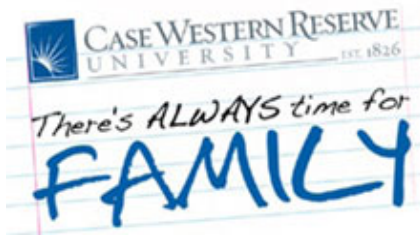
- Hot Dogs, Nachos, Sub Sandwiches, Apple Cider
- Pumpkin Carving with UPB
- UPB Haymaze
- Bonfire
- Live Music
- Haunted Hayride

Be sure to bring your own lawn chairs and blankets! There is limited parking at the Farm. Shuttles will run continuously to and from Thwing Center between 4:30 – 11:00 p.m.

For more information, visit:

<http://studentaffairs.case.edu/events/halloween/>






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**Family Weekend: November 7 - 9, 2008**


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Family Weekend provides a fun, unique, and memorable opportunity for Case students to share campus life with their families. Choose from events that connect families with faculty and staff, excursions to the surrounding communities, and on campus entertainment for the entire family!

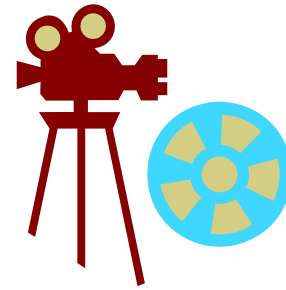
Registration is online at [www.case.edu/parents](http://www.case.edu/parents). Registration is \$15 per person. Case students are free!

REGISTER ONLINE TODAY!

<http://studentaffairs.case.edu/events/familyweekend/>

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS:

<http://studentaffairs.case.edu/events/familyweekend/schedule.html>




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**Movies**


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All movies listed below will be shown at Strosacker Auditorium. For more information, go to <http://films.cwru.edu/>

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|--------------|--|
| <b>10/10</b> | <b>Be Kind Rewind</b><br>7:00 p.m., 9:30 p.m., 12:00 a.m.        |
| <b>10/11</b> | <b>Manchurian Candidate</b><br>7:00 p.m., 10:00 p.m.             |
| <b>10/23</b> | <b>Tough Guise</b><br>7:00 p.m.                                  |
| <b>10/24</b> | <b>Get Smart</b><br>7:00 p.m., 9:30 p.m., 12:00 a.m.             |
| <b>10/25</b> | <b>The Rocky Horror Picture Show</b><br>7:00 p.m., 12:00 a.m.    |
| <b>10/31</b> | <b>Sarafina!</b><br>7:00 p.m., 9:30 p.m., 12:00 a.m.             |
| <b>11/1</b>  | <b>Darfur Diaries: Message from Home</b><br>7:00 p.m., 8:30 p.m. |