

FRESHMAN FOOTNOTES

An e-Newsletter for First Year Students at Georgia College & State University

Fall 2009, Issue 3 – September 14, 2009

STUDY SKILL OF THE WEEK: *Effective Notetaking – Part 2*



Here's the continuation of Notetaking tips from The Academic Skills Center at Dartmouth College:

Each student should develop his or her own method of taking notes, but most students find the following suggestions helpful:

- A. Make your notes brief.
 - 1. Never use a sentence where you can use a phrase. Never use a phrase where you can use a word.
 - 2. Use abbreviations and symbols, but be consistent.
- B. Put most notes in your own words. However, the following should be noted exactly:
 - 1. Formulas
 - 2. Definitions
 - 3. Specific facts
- C. Use outline form and/or a numbering system. Indentation helps you distinguish major from minor points.
- D. If you miss a statement, write key words, skip a few spaces, and get the information later.
- E. Don't try to use every space on the page. Leave room for coordinating your notes with the text after the lecture. (You may want to list key terms in the margin or make a summary of the contents of the page.)
- F. Date your notes. Perhaps number the pages.

ADJUSTING TO COLLEGE: *The MAPWorks Survey*

The time is here! Beginning September 14th, GCSU freshmen will participate in the MAPWorks Survey (Making Achievement Possible). The results of the online survey will help you recognize opportunities and potential challenges to a successful college experience. You will be able to compare your collegiate behaviors, expectations and attitudes with those of your peers. Not only will you receive a customized summary report that will point to areas in which you might benefit from campus support and services, but your survey answers will be available to key resource persons to assist in achieving your academic and social goals.

Check your e-mail IN box for a message from Mike Augustine in the Center for Student Success – it contains the link you will need to access your online survey. (*If you did not receive the message, or you think you may have accidentally discarded it, send a message including your full name to mapworks@gcsu.edu to request your link to be resent*).

There are about 100 questions and you should be prepared to spend 20 minutes or so answering them. About 10 days later, you will receive information on logging back into the MAP program to get a personalized report that will show how your expectations and attitudes compare to the rest of your classmates. The report will also contain tips and resources to maximize your success at GCSU.

SPOTLIGHT ON CAMPUS RESOURCES:

Student Health Services



Every fall semester on seemingly every college campus, various cold and flu bugs work their way through the student body. And 2009 has brought with it an extra concern of H1N1 or “Swine Flu,” which has garnered much media attention. However, many colleges and universities have found that their swine flu cases have behaved very much like seasonal flu. Of course, the goal is to hopefully avoid any flu! For FAQs and preventative tips, visit: www.gcsu.edu/swineflu. In addition, for any health-related concerns, be sure to visit our Student Health Services in Beeson Hall. Services provided include:

- Outpatient medical care for the treatment of minor illnesses and injuries
- A network of referral services are available in the community and used when needed.
- Health information and other types of educational materials are available in the clinic.

You pay a health fee each semester that gives you unlimited visits to the Student Health clinic – and most medications and supplies are provided at no extra cost as well. Therefore, it is always wise to visit Student Health Services before seeking a pharmacy or local doctor on your own.

FUN FACTS: *What’s the Story Behind the University’s Name?*

Back in 1996, Georgia College received its mission to serve as Georgia’s Public Liberal Arts University at the same time the University System of Georgia authorized its “senior colleges” (four-year institutions which also offered graduate programs) to adopt a name reflecting “state university.” Some schools had it easy ... Augusta College became Augusta State University; Kennesaw State College became “Kennesaw State University.” If Georgia College had followed that simple replacement strategy, we’d have “Georgia State University,” which already exists in downtown Atlanta.

Due to GCSU’s state-wide mission, the chancellor of the University System of Georgia at the time, Stephen Portch, encouraged Georgia College faculty, staff and students to look beyond names that involved our location or geographic region and to think “state-wide.” In addition, our alumni and students were very vocal about retaining the name “Georgia College.” A committee was formed to review potential names and make a recommendation. The outcome, “Georgia College & State University” is based in symbolism. “Georgia College” pays homage to our core liberal arts mission, while “& State University” reflects the fact that we have three professional schools (Business, Education and Health Sciences) and graduate degree programs. The ampersand “&” harkens back to our very first name: Georgia Normal & Industrial College.

Over the past decade, the initials GC&SU have been replaced with “GCSU.” When writing or speaking about the university, typical practice is to use the institution’s full name “Georgia College & State University” for the initial use, followed by our nickname, “Georgia College,” for any subsequent references.

Here’s a recap of our names over the years:

- 1889 - Georgia Normal & Industrial College
- 1922 - Georgia State College for Women
- 1961 - Women’s College of Georgia
- 1967 - Georgia College at Milledgeville
- 1971 - Georgia College
- 1996 - Georgia College & State University

