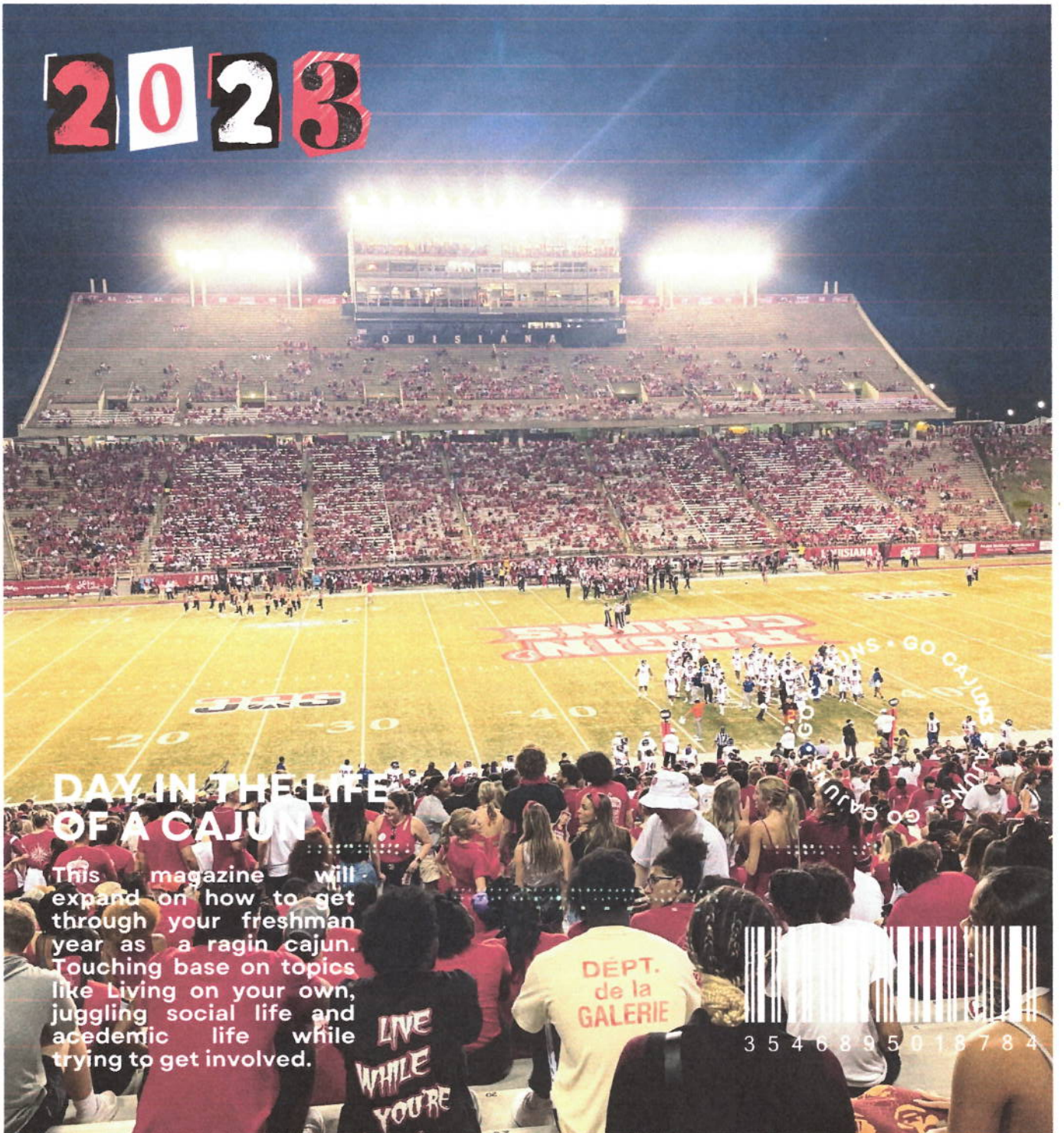


WELCOME TO LAFFY

2023



DAY IN THE LIFE OF A CAJUN

This magazine will expand on how to get through your freshman year as a ragin cajun. Touching base on topics like living on your own, juggling social life and academic life while trying to get involved.



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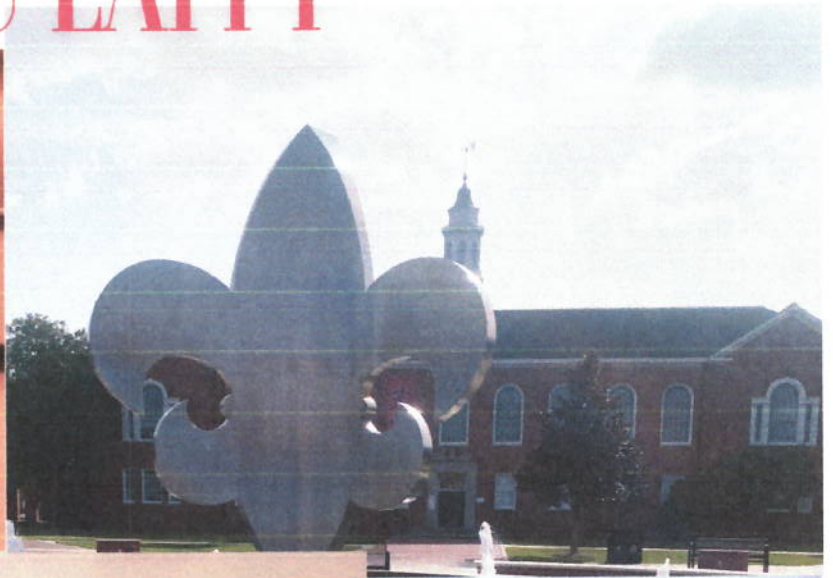
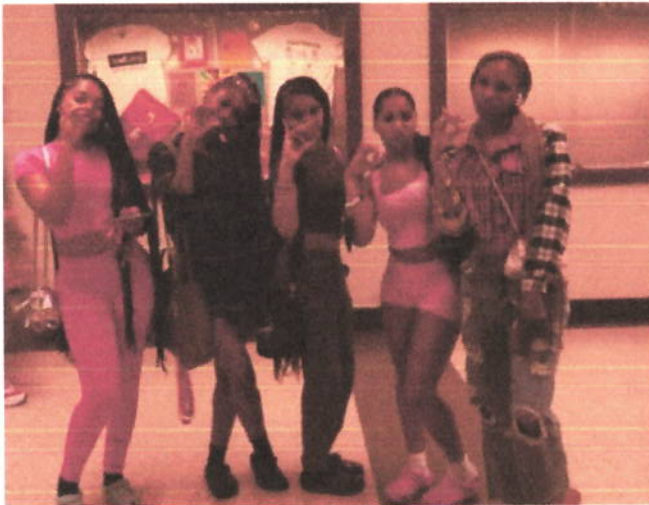
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LIFE ON CAMPUS

LET US SHOW YOU ^tLAFFY





COLLEGE IS WHAT YOU MAKE IT

CAMPUS LIFE

By Jamiyah Walters

Photographs by Jamiyah and FRIENDS



Life on Campus can be a rollercoaster if you don't know what you need to be doing. But for me, Campus-life has not been hard at all. Freshman year can be stressful but life is what you make it. Go out and experience your freshman year.

As my first semester as a freshman comes to an end, I would like to give a few tips and tricks to enjoy your life on campus.

First and foremost find your people.

You don't need a large amount of friends but you do need to find your people. Go out to the first week for freshmen which is called Cap'n Craze. It is filled with activities for freshmen to get to know the campus and U.I. There are many opportunities for you to meet people and you honestly don't need to work hard they sometimes just come to you.

Football games, student tailgates, and homecoming. These are all things that you should participate in. When you are going to these things such as tailgates and stuff be safe. You should really get involved on campus. There are many different organizations that are worth joining. I joined a new group called the "Royales", which is a stomp and shake group that consists of a different genre of cheer. So like I said there are a bunch of different organizations that you can join, there is literally an organization for everything here at U.I. And that's what I love most about U.I. it is so diverse.

Last but not least most importantly, getting used to your classes. Even though you may be having all this fun throughout your life on campus you should always make sure that academics come first. Which should be your top priority. Passing and excelling in all of your classes. Even though your class may be a long way across campus you should always show up. That's what life on campus is all about enjoy college and make the best out of it.



LIVING ON YOUR OWN

Words: Danaija Thomas

Photography: Danaija and Friends

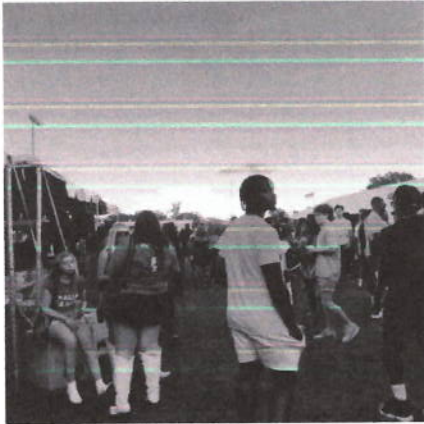
Styling: Danaija



Living on your own after moving out from under your parents' or guardians' supervision may be both thrilling and frightening for some people. Enrolling in college is merely the beginning of adulthood. As one grows increasingly self-reliant, maintaining a healthy balance between finances and life itself is essential. Now that you are living on your own, it is very important to take care of yourself. This entails purchasing everything you need at the grocery store, paying for gas, washing clothes and making sure to clean up. Some college students might not have access to home cooking because they are far from home, which causes them to have to go to the store and purchase things to cook for themselves and have snacks for later. For most people, they have never been away from their family for a long period of time which causes homesickness. Due to homesickness, it causes some people to travel back home which causes them to spend money on gas. Gasoline prices are high especially when traveling back and forth. When living alone as a college student, you no longer have parents or guardians to tell you to do something and make sure you are on the right track. It is now your responsibility that you are cleaning up behind yourself, washing clothes, and still focusing on your studies. With all these responsibilities comes the lesson of time management. Managing your time wisely, results in making sure you are staying on top of things and also having time to enjoy your life. Finding time to enjoy other people's company and your own is important because everyone needs a break from things. Whether it may be going to a basketball game, reading a book, or even watching television, a little down time never hurts. Living on your own is a big adjustment for some, but it is just the beginning of adulthood and a new life chapter.

ragin cajun

SOCIAL LIFE



College is the best place to be social and meet new people. There are many different ways to be social in college. Here are some that me and people in my community have done to socialize. You can join clubs and organizations. Most colleges have numerous clubs and student organizations covering a wide range of interests, from sports and arts to academic and cultural groups. Joining a club related to your interests is a great way to meet like-minded people. You may attend social events, such as parties, and dances. These are great opportunities to meet new people and socialize in a fun and relaxed environment. Forming or joining study groups can help you connect with classmates while improving your academic performance.



If you live on campus, take advantage of dormitory events and activities to get to know your neighbors and hallmates. You can explore your surroundings. If your college is in an interesting location, explore the local community and meet people outside of your campus. Me and my friends enjoy going on walks and taking a look around and see what's going on. Cafeteria and common areas are also a great way. Strike up conversations with people in the dining hall, common areas, and the library. You never know who you might meet by simply being open to chatting with your fellow students. Everyone should go out, socialize and meet new people in college. College is a time to explore and try new things, so don't be afraid to step out of your comfort zone and participate in activities you might not have considered before. Building a diverse and rich social network in college can enhance your overall experience and provide valuable connections for the future.



campus organized events

Product Preview

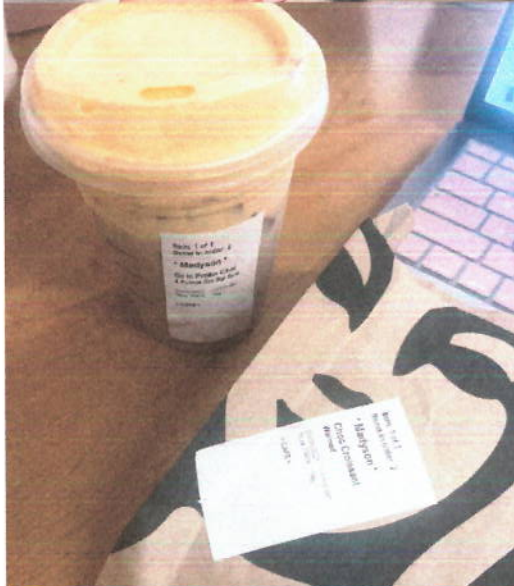
Participating in school activities and organizations can help make college life a lot easier to get through. Summer groups at ULL like SAUCE and SOUL which would help prepare you and inform you on what to look for when trying to get involved and prepared for freshman year.

Most colleges provide many activities during the weeks through out the year. University of Louisiana in Lafayette planned two weeks of helps distress, activities to prepare us for the fall. Starting with movie nights and open bowling activities where we can get to know student and meet new people while having fun and distressing. We also were able to participate in meeting the geeks, where we were able to get to know some organizations and figure out your place in Greek life.

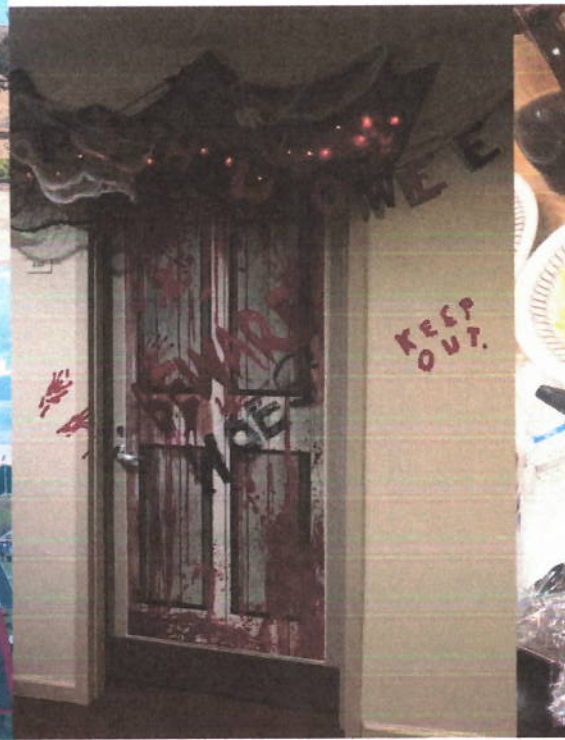
Not only are there Greek organizations but there organizations like the Royales Stomp and Shake cheer team. This time is like a sisterhood always able to rely on them to be there when you need them. The team itself includes cheers, chants, and dances. You are able to participate in many fun activities like dance concerts, cultural events, talent shows, and open mics. These events give others that are not in the organizations an opportunity to learn and see what stomp and shake is.

The Student Government Association, and Black Male / Female Leadership are a great way to get your name out there and to initiate change. Being leaders of the school, you can use your voice and make yourself heard. If you are an outspoken person you can help the student body make their ideas a reality.





FREE TIME
FREE TIME
FREE TIME

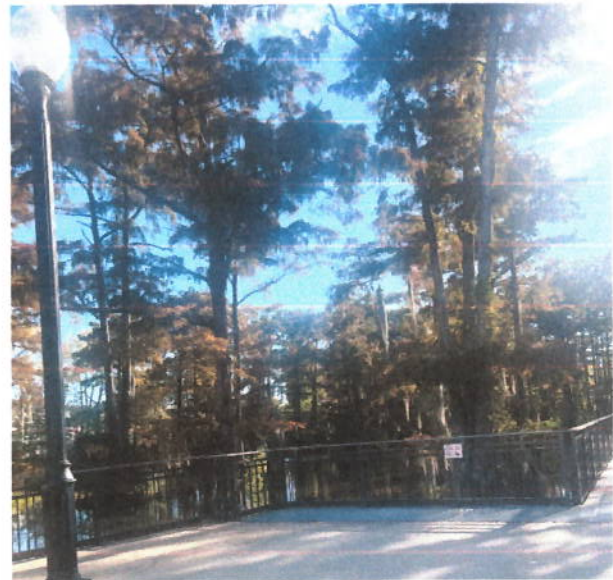


FREE TIME

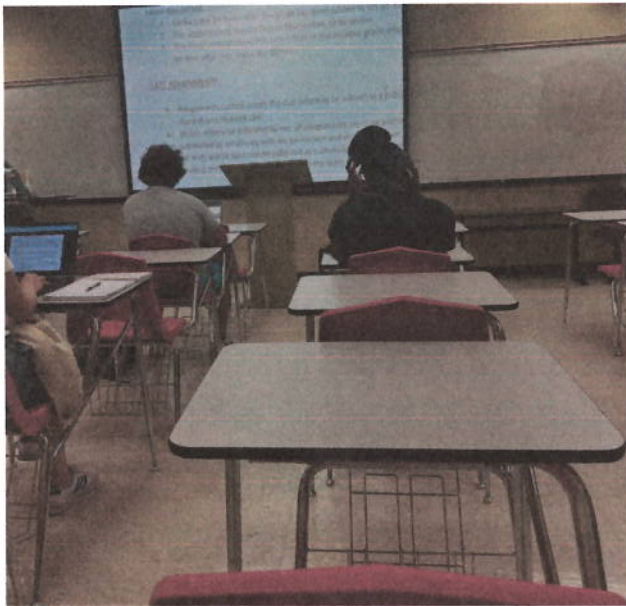
It is very rare that one finds free time in college, but when you come across it there is so much you can do with it. Many college students say they have very little free time because they are usually busy with classes, studying, work, or other responsibilities. However, on this amazing campus there is always an abundance of things to do when the rare occurrence of free time happens. One can use free time as a luxury to either relax, explore, or to be productive.

If you ask a college student what they would like to do with their free time, many will say relax or nap. As funny as it may sound, many students truly need the rest if college life is overwhelming or puts a lot on their plates at once. Gaining free time enables some students to relax or nap which allows them to recoup before coming back to reality.

Free time can also give one time to explore on and off of campus. You can explore clubs on campus if you'd like to get involved, cuisine if you are a foodie, the Acadiana mall if you like shopping, and plenty more locations in the Lafayette area if you are interested in the cajun culture. You can visit the union and find the bulletin boards that have plenty of information about things you can get involved in and possibly do during other opportunities of free time.



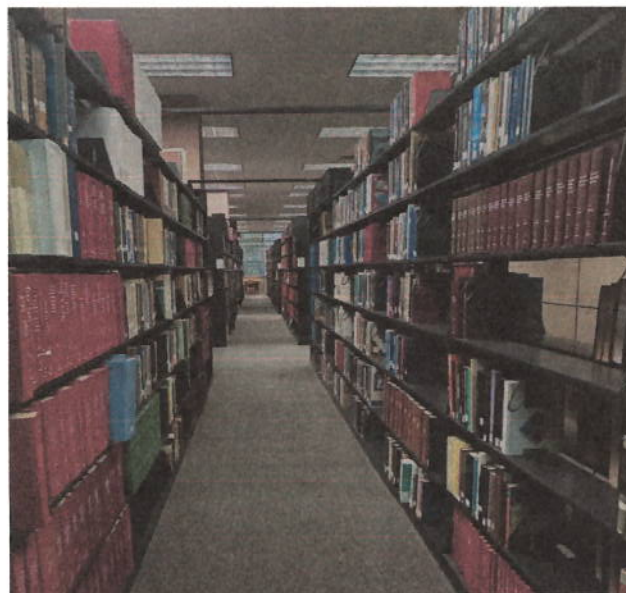
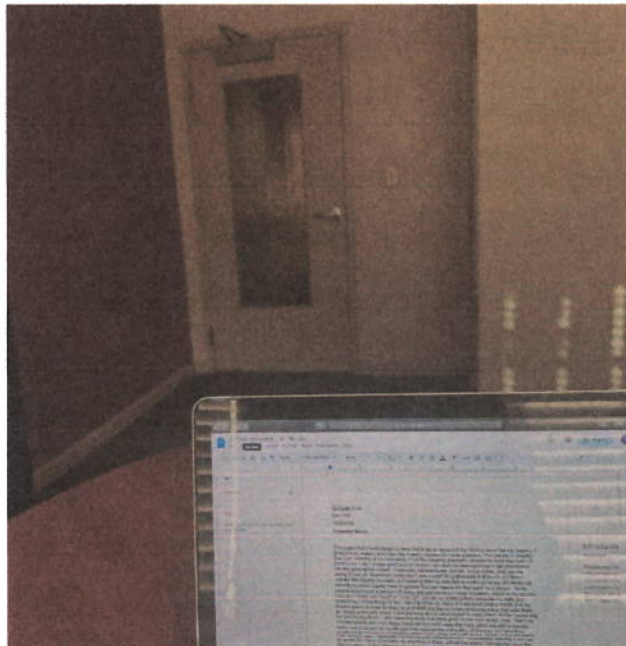
There are many different places you can eat at including the cafe on campus if you are hungry during your free time. If you want a delicious treat you can stop at Cajun Market Donut Company or if you want some really great seafood you can go to Kevin's Seafood, and you can always count on the Cypress Lake Dining Room in the union for a good burger. Lastly, if you have free time it's always smart to use it as an opportunity to be productive. You can be productive in a few different ways. You can do schoolwork, study, or do chores you need to take care of within your own dorm room. As far as school work, if you have free time it's smart to utilize that time to do any upcoming assignments. If you don't have any upcoming assignments, but you have an upcoming test it would be a good idea to study so you can be prepared. If you have completed all tests and assignments, take care of your dorm room. You can wash and fold your clothes or clean up your room or bathroom. There's so much to do on campus or in the Lafayette area when you have the luxury of gaining free time.



CLASSES & ACADEMICS

BY ZA'KYIAH BUSH

PHOTOGRAPHS BY ZA'KYIAH BUSH



UL Lafayette is home to many classes and academics. The University has 9 colleges that are home to departments and schools that specialize in academic excellence. This is one of the many reasons that I made a decision on this school because of the academics. ULL is known for its exceptional programs, some of the most notable and recognized programs include nursing, sciences, engineering, the humanities and architecture. Tips that I would give in order to maintain good grades are don't procrastinate, learn how to talk to your professors, attend class regularly, take good notes and stay organized. Doing these things will benefit you in the end because they will have positive effects on you and your grades so that you won't fall behind. There are also some resources around campus that can help you with your classes, such as Academic Advising, Academic Success, TRIO Programs, Major Decisions, and etc. Doing your work on time will be a very good benefit in the end because it will keep your grades on track and motivate you to keep going and doing good in college. The key to having academic success in college is to manage your time, help yourself and if you can't then look for nearby tutoring or help on campus, stay ahead, accept responsibility, and lastly discipline yourself. Which these are some of the things that I do, which they benefit me very well and helps me perform better on test that I have, quizzes, and etc.. Here at ULL there are many resources that are on campus to help you with both your academics and your classes, which these resources are the ones that I tend to use when I need the help on something. UL Lafayette in my opinion has very good resources for students that are in need of the help when it comes to classes and academics.



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