After a long wait, you are finally here...COLLEGE! Starting college is always exciting, but with the excitement often comes worries, too. Will I get along with my roommate? How will I make new friends? Are my classes going to be too hard? All of the worries going through your head can become overwhelming, but not to fret. Notre Dame College has many resources to help you get started on the right foot. This section of The Nest will provide you with advice, information, and tips on making this year at Notre Dame College a great year.

Will I get along with my roommate?

Living with a new person can be a little intimidating at first, but always remember that your roommate is new as well. In order to get along, you need to be willing to compromise. Often times, two people will have different lifestyles and ways of doing things. It is important to find the positive traits in your roommate and assume that they will be different. Look beyond appearances and find ways to get to know your roommate. Your roommate will likely do certain things just to annoy you, but if they are bothering you, address the issue in a non-aggressive manner.

Talk. Your roommate is not a mind-reader, so if something makes you uncomfortable or upset, open up and talk about it. The sooner you talk, the less frustrated you will become.

Look for the good. It is important to find the positive traits in your roommate and assume that they mean well. Look beyond appearances and find ways to get to know your roommate. Your roommate will likely do certain things just to annoy you, but if they are bothering you, address the issue in a non-aggressive manner.

Have fun time together. Schedule a weekly dinner or movie night where you can enjoy each other and work on building a lasting friendship.

If you do have any problems that you would like to discuss with someone else, you can contact Residence Life at 216.373.7110 or visit the office in Harks Hall.

How will work differ from college?

WHAT DO EMPLOYERS WANT FROM TODAY’S GRADUATES?

1. A high GPA of 3.0 remains consistent across all industries, but one's major and leadership experience continue to be key factors in hiring.
2. Communication skills and work ethic are the top two skills/qualities desired by employers.
3. Internship experience is important.

COLLEGE

Frequent and quick feedback
In frequent and less precise feedback
Highly structured program
Highly unstructured environments and tasks
Personal control over time, classes, and interests
Structured schedule and limited time off
Intellec tual challenge
Organizational and work relationship
Individual effort
Team effort
Professors
Bosses
Initiative required
Initiative required

SUSAN BRADLEY

SUSAN BRADLEY graduated from Miami University with a degree in Secondary Mathematics Education. She began her career at Shaker Middle School teaching math to 7th and 8th graders. During that time, she earned her Master’s Degree in Computer Education at John Carroll University. After moving to Chicago with her husband, Brian, she taught math for two years at Good Counsel High School. While Susan has been home raising her four school-aged children, she has been tutoring students privately and substitute teaching. She lives in Shaker Heights with her family and is thrilled to start working at Notre Dame College in the ASC program.

Lowery Coordinates Services in the ASC

JENNIFER LOWERY has joined Notre Dame College as a services coordinator in the Academic Support Center, where she is responsible for adaptive equipment and career coaching.

Lowery previously worked as an admissions and recruitment director at Beaumont School for six years. She holds a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology from Allegheny College.

“I am excited to go from a high school to a collegiate setting,” Lowery says. “Everyone has been warm and welcoming. I am anxious to meet the students when school resumes.”

Lowery lives in Lyndhurst with her husband Tim and two sons Jacob and AJ.

The Nest

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Congratulations to the latest Miller Scholarship Recipients:

EMILY HELGOTT

JACK FOY

KEITH DREWNIOWSKI

NICOLE MCCULLOUGH

ERIK ROETZER

Each will receive a $1000 scholarship towards ASC services.

In the Spotlight... Tricia Balicky, RN

Tricia Balicky, RN, one of the Academic Support Center’s first graduates, is responsible for adaptive equipment and doing assessments,” says Tricia. “I am able to touch lives and have my life touched as well.”

Tricia graduated in May 2010 with a Bachelor of Science in Nursing and began her career as a registered nurse in the Progressive Care Unit at Hillcrest Hospital in July 2010. Tricia credits the ASC with helping her achieve her dream of becoming a registered nurse. “The ASC literally changed my life,” says Tricia. “I was not the typical nursing student. I struggled academically because of the testing situation. The ASC allowed me to gain the confidence I needed in myself, not only academically but as a person.”

When asked what advice she would give to current ASC students, Tricia said she would advise others to keep up with their studies and keep up with their character. “Remember who you are, and let your personality stand out. But most importantly, relax, smile, and don’t let yourself stress over the little things.”

Although being a registered nurse can be a high pressure career, Tricia finds it very rewarding. “The best part is, at the end of a long day, there is nothing better than having my patients look at me and just say ‘thank you’. At that point I know I have made a difference and know all of the hard work was worth it.”

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“Nothing is impossible, the word itself says ‘I’m possible!’”

~ Audrey Hepburn

Sister Joela Leinberger, SND is a native of Cleveland, having lived on the west side and in Cleveland Heights. She entered the Sisters of Notre Dame after attending St. Peter High School in downtown Cleveland. She earned her BA in secondary English from Notre Dame College and her M.Ed. with a reading endorsement, also from Notre Dame College. She taught high school English and religion for sixteen years, and developed a Creative Writing class as an upper level elective. Her personal interests are playing guitar for liturgies, sewing, crocheting, and knitting.

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Important Dates to Remember...

August 29
First day of classes

September 2
Last day to adjust schedule

September 6
Adaptive Education Workshop

September 7
Transfer to Action

September 8
Peer Mentor Mixer

September 14
Adaptive Education Workshop

September 20
Falcon Friends/Games Night

September 21
Transfer to Action

October 4
Backpack to Briefcase Workshop

October 5
Transfer to Action

October 6-7
Fall Break

October 12-13
WRP-Workforce Recruitment

October 14
NEOEA Day

October 19
Transfer to Action

November 2
Transfer to Action

November 16
Transfer to Action

Dr. Jay Berk is a licensed psychologist and an expert in working with children, adolescents and families. He received a master’s degree in Clinical Counseling Psychology from Cleveland State University and a doctorate in Clinical Psychology from Ohio State University. He has provided training and workshops throughout the country at universities and many schools, also serving as a consultant to Mentor Schools and Hudson schools. He also provides training for the Hawaii Days of Education and was a past consultant to the Screen Actors Guild and the United Nations UNICEF.

Dr. Berk’s specialties include treating clients with stress and anxiety issues, Learning Disabilities, Attention Deficit Disorder, Asperger’s Syndrome and Tourette’s Syndrome and severe emotional/behavioral disorders.

Dr. Berk is well recognized for providing PRACTICAL TRAINING where participants time and time again rank the presentation as one of the best they have ever attended, for IMMEDIATELY APPLICABLE information that helps in the school and classroom settings.

Join us for a lively presentation to assist with strategies to manage distractibility, non-completion of work, social issues, rigid thinking, ying, impulsive behaviors, anger issues and more. Don’t miss the most practical two hours of great tips from a therapist who also understands schools!

www.jayberkphd.com

Norfolk Dame College • Academic Support Center
Welcome back...

To our returning students welcome back to Notre Dame College and congratulations on a terrific spring, 2011! Our overall GPA was 2.81 and our retention rate remained high at 95% for the seniors, as did job placement for our graduates.

To our new ASC students, welcome to Notre Dame College and the start of a new chapter in your life. The best possible advice that I can give you is to attend every class, to keep your appointments at the ASC, and lastly, to read your assignments. The reading that is required can seem overwhelming, which is why I would suggest that every freshman or transfer student learn how to use the adaptive equipment, as a time saving device.

Both our returning students and our new students have much to look forward to this year. We will have our Peer Mentoring Kick-Off event on September 1st. On October 4th, there will be a presentation by the Walthall, Drake and Wallace accounting firm, Walthall, Drake and Wallace will provide a workshop in the series, Backpack to Briefcase. We are very fortunate to have Paul come to our campus again. At this workshop, he will be addressing the relationship between Facebook and LinkedIn to the employment search. On October 12th and October 13th, the Workforce Recruitment Program will come to interview our students for government internships and jobs.

The ASC has been very fortunate to receive several grants this past semester: the Stober Family Foundation gave us a grant for our summer programs as did The Learning Disabilities Foundation of America. Additionally, the Edwin Northup Trust gave us a substantial grant for our expansion to the Regina location. The ASC programming is gaining in national recognition, for we have been asked to present at CHADD (Children and Adults with ADHD) at Orlando in November 2011 and at the LDA Symposium in Chicago in February 2012.

Together we can make Fall 2011, our strongest semester to date. With teamwork, our goals are attainable.

The Academic Support Center… Celebrates Recognition Day 2011

A standing-room only crowd of parents, professors, students and soon-to-be graduates joined together on May 9th to celebrate the successes of the Academic Support Center’s students and the professors who make those accomplishments possible. Eleven ASC students were part of Notre Dame College’s 2011 graduating class – David Chadowski, Joe DiBartolomeo, Dan Elber, Mike Levin, Tim Mosak, Nicole Salvatore, Matt Schickler, Ryan Stricker, David Swift, and Jackie Walsh. Two faculty members, Sharon Kerschner, M.B.A and Rachel Morris, Ph.D., were inducted into the ASC’s “Wall of Fame,” a distinction honoring faculty who go above and beyond to work effectively with students with learning differences. Past ASC student faculty include Ken Falken, Jeanne Christian, M.A., Estamari Fairchild, M.B.A., as well as many other distinguished faculty members.

Also recognized at the event was Derrick Smith, a NDC sophomore and the recipient of the Kathleen Kendell Memorial Scholarship. The scholarship, named for Kathleen Kendell, a beloved ASC instructor who passed away in 2010, provides funds for the purchase of test books. Six other students – Jim Boals, Keith Drewnoski, Josh Moore, Alex Briskin, Joe DiBartolomeo, and Dan Elber were inducted into the ASC’s “Wall of Fame,” a distinction honoring faculty who go above and beyond to work effectively with students with learning differences.

The Academic Support Center is designed to promote student success and the ASC was fortunate to have Paul Drake and Wallace, a nationally recognized accountant and the founder of Drake & Wallace, as keynote speakers. After this presentation, Drake and Wallace will provide a mentoring program for ASC students.

The faculty are also proud of our newest ASC Services Coordinator, Jennifer Lowery, who is a NDC sophomore and the recipient of the Gabrielle Miller Scholarship. The scholarship provides support to help the student’s ASC fees and is funded by Gabrielle Miller, a strong supporter of students with learning differences.

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