Greetings from the Office of First Year Experience Programs

You survived your first round of midterms and are probably ready for the much-needed Thanksgiving break just a few short weeks from now. We hope you love IU in the fall as much as we do and that you enjoyed seeing the leaves change and fall. We want you to feel great about how things are going. But we also know that sometimes even when everything seems to be going well, this point in the semester can bring an added level of stress: relationship changes, academic possibilities and pressures, and the upcoming end to the semester. Check out the topics below to be proactive and make the most of your November experience:

- Thanksgiving Break
- Registering for Spring Courses
- *Something from Nothing: The Art of Rap* Tickets
- Hungry for Success

You Deserve a Break

Thanksgiving break is quickly approaching. After all your hard work this semester, you deserve a break. Are you heading back home to spend time with family? For some of you, this may be your very first time home since your transition to IU. For everyone, though, it's a safe bet that it is the LONGEST time you've been back with your family. The first break can present issues as you have adjusted to the independence of being away at school. Be prepared.

If, instead, you are unable to travel home for the break – or you live at home already – [here](#) are some ideas of things to do during your break! And be sure to look locally – check out what's happening in Bloomington [here](#).
Below is a student's perspective on going home for the holidays.

**Home for the Holidays: How to Handle the Stress of Returning Home From College**

*HBCO Lifestyle Blog by Jillian Terry*

"As Dorothy from *The Wizard of Oz* once famously said, 'There's no place like home.' While it's true that home provides a feeling of familiarity, reliability, comfort, love, and much more, your sentiments about coming home might be quite different from Dorothy’s if you’re a college freshman.

"Truth be told, after being away at college for months, freshman students develop new habits, behaviors, and beliefs that come hand in hand with having more independence. Without parents to oversee their actions and behaviors, freshman college students are going out late, setting their own rules, it can be hard for a freshman student to return to the nest and live by the rules and expectations of their family. If you’re a college freshman who is preparing to head back home for the holidays, here are some things you should ponder over before you fly back to the nest..."

Continue reading this article [here](#).

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**Prepare for Course Registration**

Course registration for spring semester is right around the corner! Make sure you are prepared with these tips from University Division.

- Your enrollment date is the specific time when you can begin to register for next semester classes and can be found in your Student Center. Search for “Student Center” through One.iu.edu and then find the details link for the enrollment date.
- Meet with your advisor well before your enrollment date to develop a plan that reflects your interests and goals. Prepare for your advising appointment by using the [iGPS](#) tool. “Search Courses” to add courses to your iGPS plan.
- Don’t forget to check for any holds that will prevent you from registering for classes. To find out if you have any holds and to learn more about them, go to the “Holds” box on the right side of your Student Center home page. If there are any holds listed, click on “details” to find out which unit placed them, why they are there, their impact on your registration, and how to have them released.
- If you need help finding your enrollment date, checking for holds, or adding courses to your iGPS Plan, IU Peer Coaches are available to help. Learn more [here](#).

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**Explore the Arts**

Endulge in the history of rap music for FREE!

**Arts and Culture Experience: Something from Nothing: The Art of Rap**

*Event: Friday, November 6, 7pm*
As a part of our Arts and Culture Experience program, we will be giving away a limited number of free tickets to the screening of *Something from Nothing: The Art of Rap* documentary at the IU Cinema. FYAmbassadors will be at each residence dining hall on November 3-5, 11:30am-12:30pm or until tickets run out.

There are so many chances to see, experience, and participate in the arts at IU. What are you waiting for?

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**Hungry for Success?**

*Wednesday, November 4, 5-8pm, Tree Suites in the Indiana Memorial Union*

Come discover the path to a career you'll love. Do you have questions regarding your major or career path? Are you interested in getting a leg up on your future? Come enjoy an evening with free food & giveaways, hear from student leaders as well as specialized career services representatives, gain tools and information regarding your degree requirements, and get closer to determining a major and/or career path.

Use your [myJobs account](#) to RSVP if possible. If not, simply arrive on Wednesday, November 4th and bring a friend(s)!

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**Quick Notes:**

**Arbutus Yearbook:** Order your copy of the 2015-2016 Indiana University Arbutus Yearbook. For more information, click [here](#).

**Important dates:** Here are a few important dates to remember. For a list of important academic dates, visit [studentcentral.indiana.edu](http://studentcentral.indiana.edu).

- [Thanksgiving Break](#) - November 22-29
- [Spring Course Registration](#) - Course registration dates and times will be assigned to you in your Student Center on [One.IU](http://One.IU). You must see an academic advisor before your scheduled registration time.
- [Course Open Enrollment](#) - Students who are eligible to enroll may do so without an appointment beginning November 21.

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**The IU Bucket List: Your "Must Do at IU"**

What have you accomplished on the official IU Bucket List so far? You can see the official list, suggested by students like you, [at this link](#). Look for items such as these:

- Taste culture at many of the international restaurants on 4th Street
- Kiss someone special in the Rose Well House at midnight
• Shake the hand of the Herman B Wells statue

This month’s featured Bucket List item: **Show your IU pride at the Old Oaken Bucket Game.** The Old Oaken Bucket is the trophy awarded annually to the winner of the Big Ten Conference college football game between Indiana University and Purdue University. It is one of the oldest football trophies in the nation, and a long-standing tradition at IU. Come out and support your Hoosiers at the big game on November 28 at Purdue, which will mark the 88th battle for the Bucket!

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**Additional Resources**

Visit the [FYE events calendar](#) for upcoming programs on campus and around Bloomington.

Still have questions? Check out the [Online IU Resource Guide](#), a tool that provides links to services and information related to academic life, campus involvement, housing, health and wellness, transportation, and more.

And, as always, connect with us on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), and [Twitter](#) for announcements, ideas for getting involved, and insights from students who have been in your shoes.