



The Office of Accessibility Newsletter

Preparation is Key to Success!

Summer is quickly approaching and for many, a chance to relax and enjoy homework free evenings! Often, the summer goes quickly and the start of the fall semester surprises us. We at The Office of Accessibility want to ensure your success and help you be worry free for the start of the Fall semester. Before summer gets here, don't forget to schedule your classes and request your accommodations for Summer/Fall 2016 semester! Schedule an appointment with your academic advisor to discuss your class schedule. Once your schedule is submitted, you can log in to STARS and request your accommodations. By being proactive and requesting your accommodations early, you help our office make sure we can provide your accommodations in a timely fashion and you can be prepared for the start of the Fall semester. If you have any questions about requesting your accommodations, please contact The Office of Accessibility or your Disability Specialist; we would be happy to help you!



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Graduating Spring 2016?



COMMENCEMENT INFORMATION

Commencement ceremonies will be held on Friday, May 13, Saturday, May 14, and Sunday May 15 at E.J. Thomas Performing Arts Hall and will be streamed live online at www.uakron.edu/live.

Accommodations for Guests

Please arrive one hour prior to the ceremony to ensure that your needs are comfortably accommodated. E.J. Thomas Performing Arts Hall ushers are available to provide any needed assistance. Please be advised that wheelchair seating is limited and that accompanying family members may be seated in nearby rows as space allows. Also note that a sign language interpreter signs each ceremony and that a special sound system is available at the Information Counter in the main lobby. Questions may be directed to 330-972-7595.

Parking for vehicles with a valid state disability parking placard is available in the E.J. Thomas Performing Arts Hall deck and in the lot located at the intersection of Hill St. and E. Buchtel Ave. Wheelchair access to the hall is available through the E.J. Thomas Performing Arts Hall parking deck.

Questions about graduation? Please contact graduation@uakron.edu or visit <http://www.uakron.edu/registrar/graduation/> for more information.

UA Spring Fest 2016



Friday, May 6 | 4-10 p.m.

Coleman Common

Now in its seventh year, SpringFest is UA's annual end-of-semester celebration featuring games and attractions, free items, musical entertainment and much more. The event is open to UA students, faculty and staff and up to three guests with a valid Zip Card.

Volunteer

It takes a lot of people to make SpringFest happen. Students, faculty and staff who volunteer to work a couple hours before, during or after the event will get a FREE SpringFest 2016 t-shirt, in a special color different from the one being sold.

Sign up! It's Easy - you will NOT need to register an account or keep a password on VolunteerSpot.

If you need help with the sign-up process, have questions, or prefer not to use your email address, please contact Deborah Novak, dnovak@uakron.edu or 330-972-8646.

For more information or to sign up, please visit <http://www.uakron.edu/springfest/>

Questions about SpringFest

Contact David Vale, assistant director of campus programs, Department of Student Life at 330-972-6568 or ordvale@uakron.edu.



Prepare for Finals Week!

1. Plan your schedule: Spend a few minutes writing down everything you need to do in your calendar, from doing laundry and sleeping to writing papers and studying.
2. Set reasonable expectations: Be realistic when it comes to planning your schedule. Allocate (and use!) time to sleep, get some exercise, eat well, and just hang out. Your brain needs a break from all the studying, so let it relax by hanging out with friends, surfing the Internet, or just mentally checking out for a while.
3. Take care of your physical self: You can't rock that chemistry final if you're sleep deprived, in funky clothes that needed to be washed a week ago, and fighting a cold. Treat your body kindly during finals week, and it will return the favor!
4. Eat well and get exercise: When you're short on time, these are often the first to go, unfortunately. A 20-minute walk around campus can do wonders for your physical and mental health. Make sure to eat a good, healthy breakfast before your exam!
5. Utilize the resources that are available to you: Utilize your campus resources! Check with your department to see if there are study groups forming that you can join. Utilize any free peer mentoring or tutoring that is being offered on campus. Make an appointment with your professors during office hours to have them go over the material you're studying, the thesis for your final paper, or any other material you want (and need!) to do well on during finals. Schedule a meeting with your Disability Specialist if you need assistance with time management, organization, or study skills!

Important Dates

May 9-15, 2016
Final Examination
Period

May 13-15, 2016
Spring 2016
Commencement

May 23, 2016
Summer
Interession
classes begin

May 30, 2016
Memorial Day
Observance—
University Closed

June 12, 2016
Summer
Interession
classes end

June 13, 2016
Summer Session
1st 5 week/8
week classes
begin

Testing in the Computer Based Assessment and Evaluation Center

In an effort to continue to make our testing processes more efficient and student friendly, the Office of Accessibility has been working with Computer Based Assessment and Evaluation Center (CBA&E).

Reminder, students who have requested a proctor (reader and/or scribe) and have requested the distraction reduced space in Computer Based Assessment and Evaluation, should **report to Schrank Hall North 153** on the day of the exam. You will meet the proctor from the Office of Accessibility in that office, and then will be escorted into the testing room.

As a reminder, students who wish to utilize testing accommodations at CBA&E need to:

1. Call CBA&E at 330-972-6511 x3 to reserve the distraction-reduced testing room.
2. If a reader or scribe is required, request testing accommodations in STARS as well. You must select the time extension (OA) when you submit the request. Please make a note that the exam will take place in CBA&E in the Additional Comments section of the Alternative Testing request form in STARS.

For students who do not require a proctor, please report to the testing center as normal. Please contact your disability specialist with any questions.

Project Career

- ◆ Do you have a traumatic brain injury?
- ◆ Are you experiencing cognitive difficulties because of this brain injury?
- ◆ Are you currently enrolled in or are you considering enrolling in community college or university classes?
- ◆ Are you an undergraduate student?

If so, a federally funded initiative through the National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research (NIDRR) may be able to help you:

- ◆ Identify and maintain career goals
- ◆ Improve job readiness
- ◆ Effectively transition to a job after graduation

If you choose to participate, **Project Career** will:

- ◆ Provide you with an iPad and a customized set of apps designed to support your cognitive functioning.
- ◆ Assist you in obtaining summer internships and other employment-related opportunities.
- ◆ Offer you on-campus training, assessment, and support from the project's Technology and Employment Coordinator.
- ◆ Coordinate the opportunity for you to have a mentor from your chosen field of study.
- ◆ Help you with job search after graduation and the transition to a position.

Your participation will support your career preparation needs and challenges and, as a research initiative, help others. Know that this research project has received approval from an Institutional Review Board (an independent ethics committee). Your participation in this **free** program is voluntary and confidential. You may choose to drop out at any time.

To apply or obtain more information, please contact Clis Stauffer, Technology and Employment Coordinator, Kent State University, College of Education, Health and Human Services, Center for Disability Studies, 414 White Hall, Kent, Ohio 44242

Phone: (330) 672-0589 – Email: cstauffe@kent.edu.

Suggestion Box

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Simmons Hall 105 TDD: 330-972-5764
The University of Akron Fax: 330-972-5422
Akron, Ohio 44325-6213 E-mail: access@uakron.edu

Fall & Spring Office Hours:
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, & Friday 8 a.m.-5 p.m.
Wednesday: 8 a.m.-7 p.m.



Simmons Hall at The University of Akron