Hey Huskies!

You’re almost finished with yet another semester at NIU. It’s time to finish up classes, study for finals and tie up any loose ends you have at the end of this semester. Be sure to register for the spring semester sooner than later. Don’t forget to keep a level-head through the end of this semester; study hard and remember to take time for yourself. You may be feeling overwhelmed, but you’ve got this. There are plenty of things around NIU that can keep balance in your life outside of studying for classes. Stay organized, stay involved and study like a Huskie. Before we part for a little over a month, First- and Second-Year Experience would like to wish you the best of luck with final exams and a wonderful winter break.
What’s Coming Up?

**Academic Calendar:**

**Thanksgiving Break** *(University Closed)*  
November 21 - November 25

**Classes End**  
December 8

**Final Examinations**  
December 10 - December 15

**Winter Break**  
December 16 - January 13

**Classes Begin**  
January 14

**Martin Luther King, Jr. Birthday** *(University Closed)*  
January 21

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**Sophomore Days of Service**

Make a difference on campus and in the DeKalb community through a 2-3-hour volunteer experience during the month of February with Sophomore Days of Service (SDoS). In the process, you'll learn more about yourself and the communities around you.

Look out for events [here](#) to get to know other students and serve the members of the community.

Interested in having a leadership role during SDoS? Contact fsys@niu.edu to become a Site Leader! Site Leaders are responsible for communicating with the host site, ensuring volunteers are doing their tasks and distributing evaluations. It is a unique experience and a great leadership opportunity!
Elizabeth Korbut
Junior
Political Science major with minors in Philosophy and Communication

Q&A

Favorite thing about NIU:

“My favorite thing about NIU is all of the different organizations that are available for students to join. There is an organization for almost any interest any student could have. Most of my friends I have made came from the organizations I joined around campus. I really enjoy that there are so many organizations because it is easy to find something you would be interested in that also fits for your schedule.”

Advice for Second-Year Students

“My advice for second-year students is to get involved. Your first year should be spent getting a feel for college by going to class and speaking to professors, but your second year should be spent getting to know organizations around campus.”

Tip for finals week:

“My tips for finals are to stay organized and to have a study schedule. It is very easy to get off track when you have a lot to study for, so it is very helpful to have scheduled times to study for certain classes.”
As you are well into your second year at NIU, we hope that you have found ways to fill your experience with fun, exciting and intentional memories. We know that may not always be easy and you may be one of many who is struggling with the current climate of our country and world. Your challenge moving forward is to do something!

- **What can you do?** Community Service within Student Involvement and Leadership Development focuses on providing you with opportunities to connect to and make a difference in your community. Schedule time today to do something for your communiversity.

- **What can you say?** NIU is committed to freedom of expression and open discussion in all matters of public interest and is further committed to assuring all members of the university community have the broad latitude to speak, write, listen, challenge and learn. Take time to engage in meaningful dialogue with others.

- **How can you get involved?** There are several opportunities and ways to get involved on campus. The Student Association serves as the voice of the student body to the NIU administration. Take time to learn about the Student Association and mark your calendar to participate in officer elections spring semester.

This is YOUR experience and only YOU can make it personally meaningful. What does that mean to you and what are you going to do?

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**Students’ Legal Assistance**

*CLEANING YOUR RECORD FOR A BRIGHTER FUTURE*

Did you know that more than 72 percent of employers require a background check for employment?

Expungement clears qualifying arrests and charges from public record. Expunging your record will prevent most employers from considering past arrests or convictions during the hiring process. Schedule an appointment with NIU Students’ Legal Assistance today to clear your background for free.

Students’ Legal Assistance
Campus Life Building, Room 120
OSEEL Offers UNIQUE Leadership and Service Opportunities!

**GILD:**
Global Internship and Leadership Development

- Study abroad in Bucerias, Mexico.
- Experience an immersive cultural experience.
- Interdisciplinary 3-week internship (3 credits).
- Cultural diversity pre-departure course (3 credits).
- Professional experience gained by working with business entrepreneurs.
- Week-long leadership development retreat in Mexico.

[goid.edu/global-internships](https://go.niu.edu/global-internships)

Applications close Dec. 9.
Apply through the Study Abroad Office.

**HAB:**
Huskie Alternative Breaks

- Opportunity to travel during spring break.
- Make a difference in communities around the country.
- Meet other NIU students and influential community members.
- Service learning experience within your major/area of interest.

Focuses:
- Immigration (South Bend, IN)
- Environment (Golden Pond, KY)
- Civic Engagement (Memphis, TN)

[goid.edu/HAB](https://go.niu.edu/HAB)

Applications close Nov. 15.