AccessAbility

DASS Newsletter December 2019 Vol 12 issue 6

DASS Disability Accommodations & Success Strategies Located in the ALEC

TOPICS

- FINALS INSTRUCTIONS
- MUSIC AND THE MIND
- THERAPY DOGS AT LIBRARY
- ALEC STRESS FREE ZONE
- SELF CARE DURING FINALS
- ACCOMMODATION LETTERS



How to Request Letters for Jan Term, Next Semester, and Study Abroad Semester

For JanTerm please request your letters by completing a Semester Request". Due to the fast-pace mini-term, it is important to have your letters and accommodations in place sooner than later. YOU should notify your professor in advance of your first class of your accommodations.

For Study Abroad contact the DASS office of your plans and we will assist you in notifying your instructor of your accommodations before leaving Dallas.

For Spring 2020 classes, please request your letters to be shared with each professor by completing a "Semester Request". Though, we recommend waiting until 1-2 weeks before the semester begins to improve the likelihood your schedule is set and minimize chances that the email notification gets lost in your instructors email inbox. Instructions link:

https://www.smu.edu/Provost/SASP/DASS/DASS-Link/StudentInstructions/SemesterRequest

You have scheduled your finals at DASS— Now what? Students should know:



- Double check your time and room# by checking DASS Link under Test Proctoring
- Bring your student ID to receive your final from the proctor.
- Bring any items you are allowed for your final: calculator, note sheet, book, etc.
- Plan ahead- students are not allowed a bathroom break until 2.5 hours into testing.
- Drinks must have lids on them to be brought into the testing room.
- MOST IMPORATANT: phone and/or smart watch must be on silent and off your person.



Paws & Take a Break

Our canine friends from Pet Partner will visit with students to help reduce stress from finals. Research has shown that spending 5-24 minutes with a calm dog reduces blood pressure and the levels of stress hormones in the body. Everyone is welcome to stop by and visit with our four-legged friends as we are getting ready

for finals. Tuesday 12/10 /19 from 1-3 pm Fondren Library; 12/11/19 from 4:30-6:30 pm Prothero Learning Center

https://calendar.smu.edu/site/cul/event/paws-and-take-a-break-9/



Drop by the ALEC to visit a "Stress Free Zone" 12/11 from 3-6pm Chill and Relax!

Your Most Important Final Exam Resource?

YOU!

The final exam is a critical part of your grade. Often, finals are cumulative, covering huge amounts of information; plus they count for so much that they can drop or raise your grade by, at the very least, a letter. Mapping out a study plan during the finals period is critical, but don't forget that while making flashcards, attending study groups, and completing practice tests are great, your most valuable resource is you. You have to be in top mental form to do your best, and that means taking care of your body. Plan your study time, but don't forget to also plan a good night's sleep (at least 4 hours, but preferably 7-8), nutritious meals (at least 2 a day), and aerobic exercise (20-30 minutes) during this time. Keeping up a healthy routine of sleeping, eating, and exercise will lower your stress, improve your concentration, and maximize your chances for good grades on your finals.

David Tylicki, Academic Coach