

Freshman Year

1. **Get the Grade!** Although taking an “Anatomy of the Frog” class with a professor you don’t like might not captivate you, trying to pull a 3.0 gpa to a 3.5 during your junior and senior year will make frog anatomy seem like child’s play.
2. **Develop Good Working Relationship with Your Advisor.** Make sure your course choices are correct, but also make sure you are planning for the big picture of getting the best education you can at Rowan.
3. **Learn About and Take Advantage of Rowan's resources** -- which are considerable and helpful, but only if you use the!! To name a few: The CAP Center, The Academic Success Center, Student Government/Organizations, Center for Service Learning and Volunteerism
4. **Go to a workshop on improving your academic performance.** You will learn some tips and tricks that will help you in every class.

Sophomore Year

1. **Get to Know Your Professors (full-time faculty in particular!)** What do they do? What do they do with students? What opportunities are there to get involved in the major?
2. **Consider concentrations, classes, and experiences that set you apart from others!**
 - a. African American Studies, Women and Gender Studies, Business Class, Languages..etc.
3. **Read the Rowan Announcer and Your Email!** Opportunities and experiences come your way every day. Take a risk and go do something!
4. **Make a Good First Impression and Be a Good Citizen!** In other words, what you do in class, between classes in the hallway, and anywhere else you might be seen is noticed.
5. **Become Part of the University!** Get involved. Attend meetings, get to know people, see what organizations you like or don’t like and consider where you might want to lead!

Junior Year

1. **Become a LEADER at the University!**
2. **Study Abroad!** When you’re 30 years old with a job, a family, and a mortgage, it will be harder to take 15 weeks to go see Italy for a semester! Do it now!
3. **Get involved Off Campus! Do Field experience!** Play basketball with underprivileged kids! Build a home for someone in need! Intern at a business in the area! Expand your world from within the university to the world your university education can impact.
4. **Become Part of the Professional Community You Represent!** You can be a student member of a lot of professional organizations for very little money. Many of these organizations have specific things for students (job fairs/postings, scholarship offers, career advice, etc.)
5. **Seek Out A Mentor!** A mentor, or “trusted guide,” can be one of the most beneficial and influential people you ever meet. Just ask any of your faculty and they can tell you about one of theirs!
6. **Do Research!** This is very, very true for those of you who are thinking about graduate programs where research is a part of what you will be asked to do! And, if you are thinking about doctoral education, consider this during your sophomore year too!

Senior Year

1. **Polish the Resume & Strengthen Your Skills!** Do the things that set you apart and help you develop the skills and achievements you have started. Want to develop speaking skills? Present a paper! Want to improve your organizational skills? Organize an event on campus....etc...etc.
2. **Start Early and Finish Strong!** Sure, it's only September, but May will be here soon enough. Hit the ground running and start searching for jobs now, finalizing your plans for graduation, and finishing strong in your academic career!
3. **Go To Graduation and Other "Celebrations"!** Theoretically, you only do this once, right! Sit out in the sun, listen to the speakers, enjoy your friends and family and have a good time! You've worked hard for four years; enjoy what you've done and those who celebrate it!
4. **Have Some Fun!** If you've followed a lot of this advice, you are in good shape to find a job, get into graduate school, or wherever else your dreams might have lead you! Enjoy the end of it and enjoy your success! We'll see you at graduation.
5. **Don't Forget Us!** As faculty, we spend a lot of time on you and love to hear about how things have gone after you leave. Take a second and drop us a line every now and then!

Don't Know When, But I Just Had to Say It

1. **Early Planning = Greater Later Success!** Take the time, early and often to think not just about what you want to do but what you have to do to get yourself there. If you want to help people and you haven't figured out until early senior year that this goal likely requires a graduate degree, you might find yourself facing an uphill battle to accomplish your goals.
2. **Don't Be a Hater, Embrace the GRE!** If you are thinking about graduate school, this test might be in your future. Want to be successful, don't eschew the test. In addition, although you disrelish the thought of taking more math classes, buckle down and overcome! (And, if you don't know what they mean, look up the definitions of eschew and disrelish!)