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THE RETURNING WARRIOR

A RESOURCE FOR AND ABOUT ADULT STUDENTS AT WAYNE STATE

Welcome to Online Learning!

Within the last month, it seems like everything has changed. As always, we are here to support you during times of transition. Take a moment to ask yourself how online learning is going. Not so great? Contact your advisors and instructors to communicate your concerns. We are all in this together, and flexibility is key! It's also important to think ahead to Spring/Summer and Fall registration, both of which are open now. Many Spring/Summer classes have moved online, so keep that in mind as you plan your next few semesters.

If you are without a reliable computer or Internet connection at home, please contact me ASAP. Your mobile device will not be sufficient on its own to complete online classes.

This month, take some time to attend a virtual event. We also highlight Maya Tyler, a Warrior Way Back student who continues to press on regardless of any barriers on her path.

Mark Your Calendar: April 2020





Student Spotlight: Maya Tyler

Management Major

"I have several motivators but my biggest motivator has been seeing my own daughter graduate from college... Time management has been a big obstacle. I have had to sacrifice wants for needs and rearrange my life to accommodate studying while balancing 'after work' tasks. Although I still travel for work, I have lessened the amount of time that I do... Jump all the way in... with all of your fears, obstacles, excuses and otherwise. The personal reward is indescribable."

Please Advise: Taking it to the Internet

Amber Neher, Advisor for Warrior Way Back and Adult Returning Student Programs

The transition to online learning can be tough, especially if it is entirely new to you, or your previous experiences with it were not great. If I could only pass one piece of advice to you, it would be to *email your instructor when you are unsure of requirements or technology*. In our current environment, our goal is to be as flexible as possible to help you succeed.

Because of that, I wanted to share WSU's official suggestions on how to manage our current situation.

1. *Take care of yourself.* Your health and well-being are our greatest concerns. Make sure you continue to eat healthy and get regular sleep. Take time to rest, call friends and family, and, when possible, exercise. Contact your physician or the Campus Health Center (313-577-5041) if you experience fever, dry cough or shortness of breath.

2. Keep organized. Review your syllabi and instructions from professors. Keep track of changes to due dates and submission and testing guidelines. Contact your professor to understand what online tools will be necessary for lectures, discussions and projects. Remember to stay focused — while multitasking often sounds like a great idea, switching tasks has proven harmful to retention and leaves students more prone to mistakes. When studying or viewing video lectures, close distracting windows and programs.

3. Explore - and learn to love - new tools. While online learning tools such as discussion boards and video lectures may initially pose challenges, many may find that they actually better suit their learning styles. Familiarize yourself with these tools and their features, interact with your professors and classes via instant message and discussion boards, collaborate with team members through video technology, and seek online productivity tools that keep you organized. You may find effective new ways of studying.

4. Establish a routine. Learning from home without your traditional school routines can lead to unstructured time and a temptation to procrastinate. To stay successful in your studies, it's essential to set — and stick to — a routine that allows you time to engage your professors and classmates and finish your work. Use a diary or planner to create a daily schedule that works well for you. Discover what settings you best work and study in. Plan for moments of deep-focused work instead of multitasking, and take 15- to 20-minute breaks between tasks. Remember to also schedule time for exercise and rest.

5. Remain connected. Even though we can't meet face to face, interaction with our classmates, family and friends is essential both to your well-being and your academic success. Keep in touch with your fellow students via email, phone or social media. Make plans to continue meeting online with your study group or project teams. And don't forget to reach out to your professors or to other Wayne State programs if you need support.

For comments and to learn more about Warrior Way Back and returning to Wayne State as an adult student, contact: Amber Neher, Advisor for Warrior Way Back and Adult Returning Student Programs aneher@wayne.edu / 313-577-8908