“Tricks of the Trade”

**Blocking Study Time** – If you study for one class seven hours straight, you won’t remember as much as you think you will and you’ll never work on things for other classes. Blocking studying for classes into one or two hour increments helps to get everything done for classes and also keeps you from getting bogged down on one subject.

**The Library** – Study in it. Not your room. You’ll get distracted. One student didn’t listen to others’ advice and by her sophomore year, learned her lesson.

**Study Groups** – Great way to study and helps take the pressure off of studying for a test. If you’re the kind of person who learns best through talking things out, this will do wonders for your test grades.

**Group Projects** – Set regular weekly meetings to hold everyone accountable for completing work; use Google Documents as a sharing tool.

**Common Curriculum** – It can be confusing but if you sit down with someone who knows how it works, professor or friend, it will really help keep you on track. One student guessed her way through and didn’t figure it out until halfway through sophomore year; as a result, she’ll be doing an extra semester.

**Workload** – Don’t overwhelm yourself. You know how much you can handle. If 12 or 13 hours is enough for you, then take that many hours. Don’t let others make you feel bad for taking “only 12 hours.” It’s considered full time for a reason. Do not make comparisons with others!

**Career Services** – Excellent resource! Provides assistance to perfect résumé and create cover letter; job opportunity resource; take advantage as soon as possible; great handouts related to “What can I do with….. (Major)?”

**Alumni** – Use them! “They are as cool to all of us as Aggies are to each other without the cult!”