**IST 511 Assignment 2: Campus Resources**

There are many campus resources available to help students be successful in all areas of their life as well as to successfully complete a thesis. While many of these resources are academically based they have expanded to cover a range of services that a student may need. This is a brief overview of some of these resources but really this just is a small portion of what is available.

**Dixon Recreation Center**

One of my personal favorites is Dixon Recreation Center. Dixon offers a range of services from an amazing weight room, indoor track, pickup basketball games to intramurals. This doesn’t even begin to really touch upon the many wonderful things they offer to students. Being able to go and workout in a warm, dry place that is often out of the rain is really a great way to stay in shape and relive stress for me. I try to get in almost every day even if it is just for a quick workout. I actually don’t think I could get through school without Dixon being open!

**The Library**

Academically the library is one of the most important resources on campus. Besides offering one of the best places to study on campus the library also offers study rooms, text book rentals, research librarians and an incredibly helpful staff that will go to any lengths to help you with any needs you may have. Recently, they just opened the Graduate Student Commons which offers services particularly for graduate students like writing and statistics help.

**Human Services Resource Center**

The Human Services Resource Center is also a really incredible resource for students suffering any kind of financial or resource based need. They offer free shopping style food pantries, cooking classes, personal needs counselors and they have a term long textbook lending program. One of my friends runs the cooking classes and I am planning to attend the next one to learn some cooking skills (which I completely lack).

**Financial Aid and Assistantships**

Financial aid and also assistantships is possibly the most valuable resource a graduate student can find. A graduate assistantship offers students medical and dental insurance, a stipend and covers the cost of tuition. These are generally Department specific and I am hoping to gain one with a Professor related to one of my fields of study if at all possible.

**OSU Experience Website** (<https://experience.oregonstate.edu/resources>)

The OSU Experience Website is also a really good place to begin looking for help of any kind. They offer services related to diversity well-being, careers, civic engagement, leadership, events and other resources that might help a student.

**Writing Support**

The Writing Center is a great resource for having skilled writers help finalize and polish off important materials. The Graduate Writing Center is particularly important and offers one on one help with dissertation and thesis writing. I plan to utilize this resource frequently as I begin working on my thesis.

**Professors and Faculty**

More and more I am discovering just how amazing a resource the faculty at OSU are. I have begun meeting with not just faculty but also some doctoral students and am overwhelmed by the help and kindness I have received. For me the nice part of a quick meeting is you can learn so much about their research and also about the work style and what having them as an adviser might be like. I am really focused on trying to find a Professor that aligns with my goals of pursuing my PhD and becoming a Professor myself.