

IST 263 Project Milestone 2 – Copy Document

Note: In the “actual page text” section I am expecting you to write every bit of text that will appear on the page. If you write an outline or samples, you should expect to receive a 0/10 on this assignment.

Name:

Description (From Milestone 1):

My idea for the website project is to create a “Guide to Syracuse University” from the perspective of a senior about to start my final year. This website would allow me to reflect on my time in college, from navigating my two majors to taking advantage of the incredible resources that Syracuse has to offer. It would include general information about the school, a reflection on my own experience, tips and resources for new students, and my recommendations around campus and the city.

Home Page

Short Description

This page will include an introduction to who I am, some quick facts about Syracuse University, and then an overview of what my experience has been like so far. I will also explain the purpose of the website and how I want it to serve as a guide for potential or upcoming new students. This page will also probably include some photos that I’ve taken over the years.

Actual Page Text

WHO AM I?

Hi! My name is Ines, and I’m a student at Syracuse University double majoring in Economics and Data Analytics with a minor in Psychology. When I first got here my freshman year, I was overwhelmed by the size of our campus, the number of student organizations, and just navigating college in general. Now that I’m a senior (they’re not lying when they say that time flies by), I have a better handle on what it means to be a student at Syracuse University, and I’ve figured out college so that you don’t have to on your own! This site is where I’ll be documenting everything, I wish I knew as freshman, including my survival guide to freshman year, tips, and recommendations.

A GLIMPSE OF SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY

Syracuse University is a private university in Syracuse, New York (aka upstate NY, so get ready for long winters). It’s home to 13 schools and colleges, more than 300 student organizations, over 200 majors, and a unique mascot, Otto the Orange! Whether you’re watching a game at the Dome, attending one of our many free student events, or grabbing a bite on Marshall Street, there’s always something going on!

FROM ONE STUDENT TO ANOTHER

As an international student from Morocco, I was nervous to move to a college alone and far away from big cities. I was apprehending the typical things: choosing a major (I came here as an undecided

student), making friends, living in a dorm, and making the most of my education. However, the first couple of days of Orientation Week confirmed that I had made the best decision for me. Although it took me a couple of weeks to get into a routine, adapt to college-level courses, and find my place on campus, it only took two days to establish that I had found my new home.

During my sophomore year, I was a Peer Mentor to two groups of international students. I would meet with them weekly and share information about important school resources like DegreeWorks and BlackBoard, but I would also share my personal advice on life as an SU student. Therefore, I'm to share that advice with the rest of you!

Now that I'm starting my last year, I would honestly rank my experience at SU a 10/10. I've made lifelong friends, joined incredible student organizations, networked with faculty and industry professionals, and even studied abroad! I've compiled all my knowledge about SU into this website in the hopes that your experience can be just as good as mine.

Page 2

Title: Everything I wish I knew as a freshman

Short Description

The second page will be a "survival guide" for new students with tips about dorm essentials, getting involved on campus, and registering for classes. As a former peer mentor for first year students, I want to include all the advice that I used to give to my students. It will also include a list to the most helpful resources on campus with links.

Actual Page Text

Your go-to guide for surviving (and thriving!) during your first year.

As a former peer mentor, I've gathered all the advice, tips, and resources that I used to share with my first-year students into one place. Whether you're figuring out what to pack, how to register for classes, or how to get involved, this guide is here to make the transition less stressful!

ALL THINGS DORMS

Starting with the place you'll probably be spending the most time in, your dorm will be a space that you want to keep cozy and personal.

SU has around 20 residence halls and they all offer a different living experience. Although you aren't technically able to pick the dorm building you live in, there is a way to narrow the options. Syracuse has what we call Living Learning Communities (LLCs), which are communities of students who share similar interests living together. There are a range of interests from being in the Honors Program to wanting to live with a diverse student body in the Multicultural LLC! As an honors student who lived in the LLC, I

strongly recommend joining one as it is a great way to meet students who share your interests early on. LLCs put on events for their residents, so take advantage of the fact that you'd be near like-minded people with the opportunity to attend free events in your building. Personally, I strongly recommend the Honors LLC in Sadler Hall, but I might be a bit biased!

Depending on what you are interested in, you can indicate that you would like to live in an LLC when you sign up for housing, and if you get a spot, you were technically able to choose your dorm building! This [page](#) has the list of available LLCs along with the residence hall that you would be living in.

In terms of what to pack for your dorm, this is my list of **essentials**:

- **No more than 7 pairs of shoes** – you'll need 2 pairs of everyday shoes, 1 pair of dress-up shoes, 1 pair of shower shoes, 1 pair of outdoor sneakers, 1 pair of inside shoes, and 1 pair of snowshoes. I don't recommend bringing any more as these take up a lot of space in your closet and are truly all you need for any occasion.
- **A fan** – You might be telling yourself that this item can be skipped over since we live in upstate NY, which has a reputation for being very cold. WRONG! The first month or two usually has hot and sunny weather and the dorms do not have AC, so you'll be glad to have a fan in your room.
- **Extension cords** – Most dorms do not have many outlets, and it makes it annoying when you want your lamp to be on but also need to charge your phone. Therefore, extension cords are a great way to make charging more accessible and available (just make sure to get a surge protector as some types of cords aren't allowed)!
- **A foldable drying rack** – Once you start doing your own laundry, you'll realize a lot more items of clothing can't go in the dryer than you initially thought. Having a drying rack for delicate clothing is very handy and it barely takes up any space if it folds.
- **Another light source** – Whether this is a desk lamp, floor lamp, or LED lights, I recommend getting another light source other than the ceiling light as those are generally not very strong. I may just be a sucker for bright rooms, but my freshman year dorm felt so dim and dull before I got a floor lamp. My personal preference is getting a yellow light bulb to make it feel warmer!
- **A water filter** – Dorm buildings don't always have the cleanest drinking water, so getting a BRITA filter or something similar is useful for filling up your bottle in your room!
- **A mattress topper** – You'll quickly realize that dorm mattresses are some of the hardest surfaces you've sat on before. Getting a mattress topper will be a game changer and you'll feel like you're sleeping in a cloud.
- **A reusable water bottle** – Campus is big and hilly, so you'll want to stay hydrated. Having a reusable water bottle makes it very easy to do so as there are a bunch of water fountains across campus.
- **Memorabilia** – Lastly, bring photos, posters, and trinkets that will make your room feel like home! Making your room personal is the first step in feeling comfortable on campus and a great way to have some pieces of family and friends with you.

Although this isn't a comprehensive list of everything that you should pack for college, it covers some underrated essentials that tend to slip people's minds.

ACADEMICS 101

Registering for classes can be stressful, especially when MySlice starts crashing from all the traffic. So, here are my top tips to prepare for registration season:

- **Start early** – Class information will come out a couple of weeks before actual registration, so I recommend going through all your options as early as possible. This allows you to plan exactly for what you are looking for as well as gives you time to talk to your advisor if you need a second opinion (advisor appointment timeslots fill up VERY fast during this time, so plan ahead).
- **Have backups** – Students register for classes based on grade level, so as freshman, you unfortunately have last pick. This means that you might not always get your first choice in classes or sections as they fill up fast. Therefore, I recommend having one or two backups ready in your shopping cart so that you're not missing out on important credits.
- **Be Ready** – Once you have planned everything out, add all your classes to your shopping cart, including your backups, so that you are able to enroll as soon as your registration time opens. Classes fill up fast, so make sure to be on MySlice at least 5 minutes before your appointment. In addition, registration is often in the morning, so if you have a class, it is okay to ask your professor if you can take 5 minutes to register for class on that day!

Next, here are my top 5 tips to have a successful first semester:

- **Separate your spaces** – Since your new home is a small dorm room, it gets difficult to differentiate between your personal and work spaces. Therefore, I suggest avoiding doing work on your bed and leave that as a place for resting. Even better if you can find other spots on campus to study and separate your spaces more distinctly.
- **Go to office hours** – Going to office hours regularly allows to have all your questions answered and stay on top of course material, but it also allows you to build a relationship with your professors. When it comes to graduate school or scholarship applications, it'll be very helpful to have a faculty member who knows you well enough to agree to write you a recommendation letter!
- **Track your assignments** – There are a lot of deadlines to keep track of in college, so having a place where you write them all down is a great way to stay organized. I personally use a color-coded Excel sheet to keep track of my work as well as how far along I am, but you can also use a physical format if that works better for you!
- **Don't procrastinate your assignments** – This is a cliché piece of advice you'll hear often, but it doesn't make it any less true. Assignments start to pile up and soon enough you have three midnight deadlines. Starting early allows you to decide how long each assignment will take to complete and plan for time to ask for feedback from your professors if needed.
- **Take breaks** – After a while, the academic routine can take a toll on your mental health, so it is very important that you take breaks and take care of yourself. Make sure that you are leaving time to call home, hangout with friends, and pursue personal hobbies to stay in the right headspace.

GETTING INVOLVED

Outside of classes, my biggest piece of advice for an incoming freshman is getting involved on campus. A lot of people feel out of place in a new environment, especially when you don't have a community to rely on and to keep you busy. Therefore, I strongly recommend signing up for 1-2 student organizations your first semester. This will give you the opportunity to meet other students with similar interests and take your mind off work for a couple hours a week. Leadership experiences in clubs are also a great skill to add to your resume!

SU holds an involvement fair in the first 3 weeks of each semester where all the clubs on campus are present and tell you how you can join them. This is the main event that you should go to your first semester, and don't be afraid to look at all the options until you find the ones that work for you!

YOU'VE ALREADY PAID FOR THIS

These are some of the best free tools and services available to Syracuse students. Your tuition pays for them, so make sure you take advantage of them!

- **Free Professional Headshots** – The Career Services office offers [free professional portraits](#) for all students. This is very helpful for when you create a LinkedIn account, so make sure to go check it out!
- **Writing Center** – This center on the Quad offers help with any sort of writing, whether it be course papers, scholarship applications, or even personal pieces. You can book appointments [online](#) and have a professional look over your piece with you for free!
- **Barnes Center at the Arch** – The [Barnes Center](#) is one of the largest facilities on campus, encompassing a medical center, counseling, a gym, a pool, and many more amenities. Through your tuition, you get access to all these amenities for free.
- **Mary Ann Shaw Center** – The [Shaw Center](#) offers various volunteering opportunities in areas near campus. If you are interested in community service, this is a great place to start.

Page 3

Title: Things I Swear By

Short Description

This last page will include all my favorite things on and around campus. This includes my go-to study spots, game-day traditions, or favorite restaurants. If I have any, I will also include pictures that I've taken at these places.

Actual Page Text

A collection of my favorite places and experiences at Syracuse: study spots, good eats, and traditions. These are all the things that make campus feel like home.

STUDY SPOTS

- **Eggers Café** – Located on the 3rd floor of Eggers Hall, this cute café has large windows that bring in lots of daylight, a sandwich bar, and a quiet study space.
- **2nd floor of Bird Library** – Bird Library is the most popular library on campus, and my favorite thing is that, as you go up its levels, each floor gets quieter. The second floor has my favorite layout!
- **Panasci Lounge** – Located in Schine, this open room upstairs has a variety of seating options, including couches, comfy chairs, and regular study tables. I find that it is a very cozy option with a great view of campus!

ON-CAMPUS EATS

- CoreLife Eatery in Schine
- Halal Shack in Schine
- Choolaa in Newhouse and Goldstein Student Center
- Eggers Café
- Cuse Chicken in the Goldstein Student Center

OFF-CAMPUS EATS

- Red Chili
- Recess Coffee
- Guadalajara Mexican Restaurant
- Marshall Street Favorites:
 - Poke Fish
 - Oishi Sushi
 - Salt City Coffee
 - Collegetown Bagels

GAME-DAY TRADITIONS

- Wear Orange/ SU Merch
- Watch the Marching Band perform on the Quad before the game
- Learn the student game chants

- Enjoy free pre-game activities on the Quad before the game, including music, free food, and photoboosts
- Try to spot Otto in the Dome
- Go celebrate our wins at Varsity Pizza on Marshall Street post-game!

OFF-CAMPUS ACTIVITIES

- Enjoy a sunny day at Green Lakes State Park
 - Take a day trip to Skaneateles
 - Study at Barnes & Noble
 - Go shopping at Destiny Mall
 - Attend a Syracuse Mets baseball game
 - Explore downtown Syracuse
 - Get \$6 frozen yogurt at Fayette's Soft Serve Café on Wednesday nights
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