My name is Kennedy Kaufman, IM here with mike baker, say hello and introduce yourself

Hello everyone, my name is mike baker I’m from Southborough Massachusetts, I’m a junior at the university of Michigan, I’m studying economics and I’m also pursuing a minor in applied statistics

Describe your typical school day?

I find most days are… it’s hard to equate them to one, one day I have just one class and I use that day primarily to do other school work, yak now, typically I wake up around 8ish, either in class or doing work by 9-9:30, pretty much work until about whether its class or schoolwork, til bout 7 maybe 8 maybe 6 o’clock, and pretty much call it a day at that point. Friday is also a very easy day for me. I typically just make it to my one class and call it a day.

Do you have some days that are busier and some more relaxed?

Definitely, so it’s the way a lot of the classes work, I think. Yeah know, you have meetings Monday, Wednesday, most classes are either Monday Wednesday or Tuesday Thursday, depending on how you can work out your schedule, personally my Mondays and Wednesday are almost identical and I have class blocks from 8:30 to 2:30, so I try and do work after but I can only do a couple hours otherwise I feel exhausted. Also my Tuesdays are wide open. I only have on class in the late afternoon, so if I need to catch up on sleep I can do that also. Usually just wake up, drink coffee, couple hours later end up at library just casually doing work. My Wednesday and Mondays are very similar. Thursday I have one extra class but its pretty wide open. Fridays, most kids at UofM try and work out easy Friday’s and so they can have a day off to go out party or just have an easy day in general. I would have no class if possible but I had to have this discussion on Friday.

Ignore lab side bar chat

How much time do you spend doing homework in a typical week? Or by day, what ever easiest.

I would equate each class, I would say in a typical week for econ 310, maybe 2 hours of work. For Econ 444 class, id say I do probably 4-5 hours of work a week, so 7 hours for econ classes. Stats probably 3-4 hours a week, more like 4. And then that leaves us at 11 hours. And then my other class is, I wont name it, but it’s a bit of a joke, it counts for my upper level writing which is awesome. I probably put in just an hour in the class or whenever I have a random assignment. But I would give it an hour just to be generous. I probably do 13 hours of school work each week.

How about meetings?

I’m not overly involved with the school, Im a member of the Pi Kappa Alpha fraternity, which I do spend a lot of my time getting involved with events there whteehr they be philanthoripc or social, but im also a member of the Michgan Economics society, which probably takes up about 4 horus a month. Tis not a huge time commitment. Im in a bowling league, I don’t spend too much time in extracurricular groups or clubs.

When do you have bowling?

Tuesdays nights, but quick plug…. Ignore

Describe yourself as a student.

I consider myself a pretty well rounded student. I would say my strengths lie in things like time management, work ethic, opposed to natural intelligence. I feel as if I have deccent natural intelligence but I think my work ethic pushes me to that next level or pushes me further as a student. I get stressed if I don’t feel like I have a good grip on how things are going, and I think that’s typically what leads to my work ethic more often than not. I think im pretty good at communicating in general with my teachers, I thjink theres a lot of benefit of office hours, I don’t necessarily go to them but I think they’re worth stoping by each and every class, just make that sligh relationship with your teacher or GSI, that way if youre coming up on a test and you don’t know something or you don’t want to walk to office horus, if they know you theyre a lot more likely to try and help you in whatever way they can. They have some idea htat you’re a good stuend as oppesd to just any other student.

Where’s your favorite place to study and why?

I almost always study at the School of Social Work, I’m not entirely sure what I like so muc habout it, definitely its proximity to where I live, plays a big a part, in fact I acutally love the place, I decided on the spot to live at the place im living at just because of its relativity to that plce. Its an open environment, genuinely people seem happy there, every now and again a dog witll come in, typicall a teharpy dog for somebody, but theres also a quiet area and also the girls there are pretty good looking which never deters me from a situation.

So you would describe your time management as well structured?

Yeah I think every time this semester so about halfway mark maybe a couple of weeks after I really feel like I have a good understanding of what I need to do and what I don't, at the beginning I probably do more work than I need to and then kind of adjust, after you know first round of midterms like. All right. Did that really help me do well in this midterm and if not then I'll drop it. But I always just assume that it's all going to be important. And honestly it it's literally as easy as following instructions if you do everything your teacher asks you to do. You'll do well in every single class its just hard to do everything they want you to do. But if you can, you will succeed. And I can guarantee that about pretty much any student.

Do you keep notes of any sort to help you in your planning?

Yeah I do, I have an app called MyHomeworkApp. It’s a free app. You can color code your classes. When you get an assignment you just put the date its in and what class. The icon is a fat pencil. I immediately put in all my midterm exams and things like that.

How often do you say you forget to do things?

Very rarely do I forget to do thibngs, I may decide not to do something, but I very rarely.

Whats the last thing you forgot to do and why?

What is forget? That you totally missed deadline or had to do last minute?

Try first something you totally missed, and if you can think of anything, then something where you almost forgot but

Thinking about it, I honestly cant really remember when I completely forgot… maybe a reading for a class or something. But I always would end up doing it later. Recently ive been studying for a stats exam and I had this easy assignment that I knew about, but forgot about it, and had to do it one day before in the middle of my studying, like I said, it was pretty easy I did it at night, half the reason I forgot about it I realized I could do that assignment in like 5 minutes. Well less than an hour tho. The second it was assigned.

Do you think there are any ways you can improve your time management?

I think there’s always room for improvement as far as time management goes, but at some point theres a trade off between time management and like taking advantage of every second you can to do work and just enjoying yourself, so depends on how I’m feeling honestly. I think I have a good grasp and I think its one of my strengths so I wouldn’t necessarily hold it against myself.

Has your time management changed in any way since high school?

I would say not, because I approached my work in high school similarly to the way I’ve approached work in college, I think there is a bit of a learning curve for a lot of people, especially people who are very smart. They didn’t work hard in high schools, the could just study in the last minute and pull something together, since tests were very frequent and not over very difficult material, but I always kind, sports took up so much free time. I played three sports every seasons throughout high school and so that took up time. I had to do my work at the last second but I felt my work ethic was there cuz I was always doing something to better myself and always prioritize grades. So if I had to stay up all night, even though I was tired, its brutal when you have to stay up til midnight and you wake up at 5:30-6 for high school, then you have sports til 6 each night, then eat dinner, then homework again, it’s a vicious cycle. But I honestly feel like I do a little less work only because of the commitment I had taken on with sports.

Did you use any planner in high school?

I had a planner, physical in high school. In my high school, phones were shunned upon, being out or any of that. So I typically bought the school planner and I always checked things off as I went, that’s just how I feel good about getting stuff done.

When did you start using MyHomeworkApp?

I think I had the Michigan planner at the beginning of freshman year and didn’t love it, I was like I don’t really like the format of this, so I just kind of thought, there’s got to be an app out there that I can download and sure enough I found it. I got used to it. Freshman year of college

How did you find it?

I literally searched around the app store and idk what brought me to it, maybe it had good ratings, or maybe I looked up homework planner.

Did you do any other research about it? Google?

No, genuinely just did it on my own.

So what kinds of things do you write in your planner? Are you writing homework, chores, extracurricular things?

All of my school work, whatever I name it will remind me of what it is. It could just be like “chapter 2” but then ill see what class its from and know what I need to do, exam times, because those can be different sometimes. Very rarely do I put side of school events in there. However if I need to do something, ill sometimes put it in there or maybe stuff that for interviews and big events and application deadlines ill put in there too. But only in rare circumstances do I put outside stuff in there because I know ill look at it and have and idea.

How often do you check your planner?

Daily, once or twice daily during the week, but very rarely on the weekends except for Sunday when I’m trying to, Sundays ill typically look at the week ahead and put stuff in it so I can get a grasp so I can figure out when to do such and such assignment, that’s what important, because I feel often people “ well its not due for two days” but then you don’t look at what you have tomorrow, versus what you have today, so you never know what time you might have to squeeze something in

Do you use reminders? Time or location?

I don’t even know what a location reminder is, but no I don’t typically use the reminder app. Very rarely

How do you prioritize what’s in your planner?

The natural feed of the app is to just show what most recent thing due is, and it has the date that its due next to it and its colored in red, or it progressively gets closer to red the closer to the date. So I just scroll up and down.

What are your favorite features?

I like the color coding, I don’t know why, pretty basic idea. I just like how it is what it is not trying to do too much, not trying to necessarily connect me to web, its not slow its fast, it has good system of, honestly, swiping to the right and having it check off, I think that whole check off mentality is what I base a lot of what I need to do on

Anything you wish it had?

That’s a good question, I think the one thing that could be improved in the app would be some sort of way to update your classes better, cuz its not a huge deal to restart and re put in all your classes, but it is being used for homework and if you’re customer base is going to keep going back, there should be a button like “new semester” where you can quickly do it or add on or replace it. Save me a couple minutes.