

Motivation and Time Management Advice from Students

Kira I use two planners. In one I list my homework assignments and in the other my appointments and work. I highlight each item as I finish it.

Dawn I write a "to do" list once or twice a week. I decide on priorities and try to do the items in order of importance.

Belia I write out the assignments from each syllabus in my UIC Daily. I use a different color ink for each class. Each day I also write down my reading and other assignments to do.

Melissa I use a 16-week calendar and plot out all exams, papers, and major projects. This allows me to see where my busiest weeks are and to plan accordingly.

Nancy Writing assignments in my Daily helps me plan which days I may need to take off from work.

M. Check and reply to email just once a day. Get an answering machine; don't get a TV.

Kathy Resisting friends is important. You have to learn to say no. I hate to miss things. I want to be there having fun, but I remind myself I have to keep my priorities straight. School has to come first. There will be other times to see my friends.

Marko I tell my friends to leave me alone during the week. Weekends are for friends, but during the week is for school. I shut off the TV and leave the phone unplugged.

Michele With a lot of jobs on campus it's possible to get some studying done at work. I limit my work to 10 hours a week.

Teayonia To keep myself motivated, when I finish studying I reward myself with food and different activities. I also think about what happened to my friends who didn't keep focused on their grades.

Evelyn I reward myself by shopping! It's something to look forward to when studying.

Brian I keep a daily reminder. My friends laugh at me when I have to check my book to see if I can hang out with them, but if I have a test coming up -- or a paper -- I have to prioritize.

Tyesa I tell my friends not to call at certain hours. If they don't listen, I tell them that I am paying too much money not to get an A out of my classes.