



New Aggie News

Letter from a peer

This time of the semester is not the easiest and the first time you are coping with Midterms. The stress you might feel is typical and everyone feels it too. Trust me; I have seen my midterms with an "F" on it and felt like I didn't belong.

If you are feeling anything like I did at this time, you feel defeated, overlooked, under accomplished, and just straight up tired. If you are having negative feelings, know that you aren't weak or dumb or unworthy; you are human.

College is hard, but you belong here and can overcome hard tasks. Try not to compare yourself & your grades to other people, it is just a number: grades do not define your worth.

People think that failing or not doing well makes them not good in some way. Wrong; there's a learning curve to everything for everyone, and it's okay to fail. Failing just means that there is room for improvement, and if you try, you can improve significantly. Just keep believing in yourself & working hard!

Midterms are not final, you can rebound and do even better than before. My mother tells me to prepare for the worst and expect the best, and it has kept me positive and comfortable learning from failure.

I am assuming you had moments wanting to cry in a corner and then laugh at how ignorant your professors make you feel. Something to keep in mind is no matter how your feeling or how you performed: you will always have a solid support group full of people who want nothing more than to see you succeed. School is hard and having to figure it all out by yourself makes it even more of a challenge.

You work hard, are kind, and can persevere! Don't ever forget that and don't let anything get you down. I believe in you! You are going to overcome any adversity that comes your way. You will exceed all expectations. You are amazing

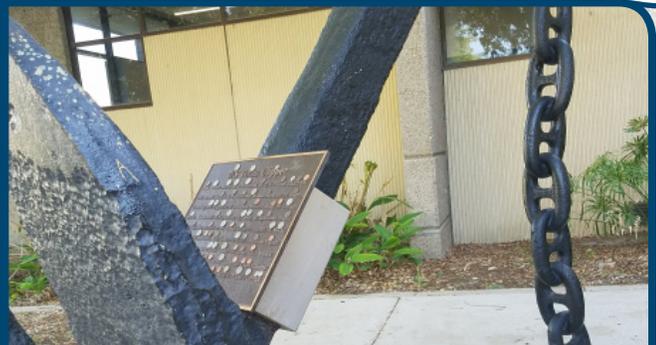
Mikaela Lenamond
SGA Vice President, Class of '20

WISE WORDS

Hopefully you are settling in and getting used to your new campus home. You now have mid-term grades, and we are sure you're starting to juggle more. You have likely noticed that a majority of your learning is typically happening outside the classroom (statistically it is 80%). This doesn't mean the professors aren't providing all the materials you need; it means you have to find, read, write, and think about your learning before you get to class. It can take time to develop skills and strategies to deal with this new environment. No fear; you have lots of help!

And that help is everywhere. The Learning Commons, Seibel Learning Center, Counseling Center, Academic Departments, and Course Instructors, along with many others, all provide tools and assist with strategies you'll need to be successful throughout your academic career . . . all for free. Don't wait to see how you'll do; talk to those that have been there and succeeded! Don't just do better, be the best.

TRADITION



Students can often be seen rubbing or paying the anchor for good luck before exams. Seniors are the only students permitted to walk between the anchor and the anchor chain. The anchor arrived in 1965 to TAMUG as a memorial to the *USTS Texas Clipper*.

Pro tip: Want even more luck for your exam? Go on inside the library for support services and study spaces!



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#GOALS

"The class might be hard but you have to be personally **responsible** to make those grades."

"Staying in a state of ignorance is not ok. **It's ok to not know.** It's not ok to keep not knowing."

"Don't freak out about the small stuff. **Focus on the larger issues.**"

#Lean In & Reach Out

"Establish a rapport with your professors. They are the key to helping you. It is easy on this campus to **talk to faculty.**"

"You know **help is there.** But you don't use it at first. Use it. It changes everything."

"I appreciate my **parents** in their financial and moral support. What this campus offers transcends a tuition bill. I need to live up to those expectations."

"These **majors are hard.** But you need to hang in there and don't freak out. It's going to be ok. **Get help from everywhere you can.**"

"**The key was making friends.** My first semester was terrible because I studied alone in my room. But I started making friends and now I have a huge support group."

#Ownership

"I needed structure. I made good grades in high school and **I wasn't prepared** for the amount of work I needed to do."

"I needed to take ownership of my future to **find my passion** and major."

"**Time management is critical.** You don't have to be smart but you have to be smart with your time."

"Your mindset can drag you down by setting your expectations too low. **Set your sights on excellence.**"

"Start with setting **good habits.** You can't always be motivated so having good habits carries you through."

"College is for learning about your passions. That is your **motivation** & it keeps you **focused.**"



from students!

Support Services

Learning Commons

tamug.edu/learningcommons
(409) 740-4560

Seibel Learning Center

tamug.edu/slc
(409)741-4343

Student Affairs

tamug.edu/studentaffairs
(409)740-4561

Career & Counseling Services

tamug.edu/counsel
(409)740-4736

MADLIBS

Dear Professor,

My name is _____ . I am _____ to you today to request guidance about _____ .

I have _____ attended classes in the _____ and tried _____ the readings and working closely with _____ to understand the material. _____ , this class is

_____ and I _____ to succeed in this class to reach my goal of becoming a _____ .

Could we possibly meet to further discuss _____ over a cup of _____ or some _____ ?

Thanks,

Your _____ Student