KEY DATES
12/4  SLAO Meeting
12/5  Last Class Day
12/5  BGS Info. Session
12/7 -
12/13  FINAL Exams
12/9  Project Angel Tree items due
12/11  Book Buyback
12/13 -
12/14  Commencement
12/18  Grades Available

Commencement

Congratulations to all students graduating this Fall! Commencement will take place December 13 - 14 at Strahan Coliseum. The schedule consists of:

Friday, December 13th
6 p.m. - College of Fine Arts and Communication
College of Applied Arts

Saturday, December 14th
10 a.m. - McCoy College of Business Administration &
College of Science and Engineering
2 p.m. - College of Education, &
College of Health Professions
6 p.m. - College of Liberal Arts, University College

Can't attend the ceremony? Listen Live!
Audio of the commencement ceremonies can be streamed via the internet or on the iPhone

Book Buyback

Wednesday, December 11, 2013
11 a.m. - 7 p.m., Avery 206

Project Angel Tree

Each year, Caldwell Heights Elementary (CHE) identifies children and families in need to "adopt" as part of their holiday assistance program. As part of our continued partnership with CHE, Texas State Round Rock Campus will participate again this year by collecting needs/wish list items and gift cards. Last year, we sponsored 35 children and collected $1020 in gift cards that we gave to families in need! Suggested minimum amount per card is $10. Look for the Christmas tree in the OSC after Thanksgiving that will have angel ornaments on it along with the child's wish list or gift card amount.

If you are interested in sponsoring a child, please contact Jill Seidenberger, js213@txstate.edu. Please bring all unwrapped items to the OSC on or before Monday, December 9th at 5 p.m.

Thank you for making a child’s Christmas merry and bright!
Congratulations to Renee Oakley-Smith, RRC Interdisciplinary Studies (Early Childhood through Grade 6/ESL) Graduate! Renee won a coveted Texas State University diploma frame for picking up her diploma. Those picking up their diploma at the Registrar's Office in San Marcos are eligible to enter into a drawing for a free diploma frame each semester.

DECEMBER 2, 2013

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SLAC Study Tip: Are you a self-saboteur? When it comes to FINALS, avoid pitfalls.

By: Texas State SLAC

As finals approach, it’s important to have a sound strategy for finishing each course well. You can undermine a semester’s worth of work (and a good GPA) with bad study techniques. Follow these reminders of what not to do while preparing for crucial tests and last papers.

1. **Pull all-nighters.** Often, you won’t remember what you were studying, and you may be unable to concentrate the next day. Plan so that you will never have to pull an all-nighter.

2. **Drink TOO much caffeine.** This creates a high—and a crash. Your sleep is compromised. A little caffeine isn’t bad; simply drink in moderation.

3. **Study with fun friends.** “Fun” friends distract you. Study with those as serious as you are or as you want to be. Also, before a session, study the material so you’ll discern wrong from right answers to questions.

4. **Rely on adrenalin.** Cramming may seem to work, but you are cheating yourself out of education you’re paying for. Absorb material so that you can build on it later.

5. **Remind yourself what’s at stake—too often.** While we need to tell ourselves how important a test or paper is, if this causes too much stress, tone down the pressure and try positive reinforcement. Reward yourself for studying with a movie, candy, a manicure, massage, and the like.

Ideally, preparing for FINALS is something you’ve been doing throughout the semester. For more tips on establishing good learning habits, read our [previous study tips blog posts](http://www.texasstate.edu/student-learning-assistance-center) or stop by the Student Learning Assistance Center on the fourth floor of the Alkek Library. Good luck with FINALS!
Texas State Student Health Center—
Round Rock

Hours
Monday - Friday: 1 p.m. - 5 p.m.

Services
- We offer primary care, women’s health services, and mental health.
- Staffing is provided by nurse practitioners, with a physician available once a week.

Contact Information
- Appointments: To schedule a same-day or future appointment, call the Appointment Line at 512-245-2161, option 3.
- After Hours: The free Ask-A-nurse Advice line is available after hours and on weekends by calling 512-245-2161.
- Visit our website at www.healthcenter.txstate.edu to learn more about our services.

Payment
- Health Insurance is not required, but it is recommended for students. An optional health insurance plan is available for eligible patients.
- Private insurance billing coming soon.
- Only credit cards are accepted at the Round Rock location.

About Us
- The Student Health Center—Round Rock is a result of partnership between the nursing school and the Student Health Center.
- We respect your privacy by keeping all health information confidential.

Health Promotion Services
Our health promotion team consists of professionally trained health educators, peer health educators and support staff. Presentation are available for classes wanting to learn more about specific health topics. Please give at least 3 weeks notice for all requests. Visit the Health Center website for more information.

Bachelor of General Studies Information Session
Thursday, December 5
5:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Avery 455

FOR MORE INFORMATION:
www.txstate.edu/about/programs/bachelors/bsginfoop.html

College Night– Round Rock Campus
Texas Stars Hockey
Come join SLAO for their March Social and watch the Texas Stars take on the Oklahoma City Barons!
Friday, March 21, 2014 at 7:30 p.m.

For more information or to purchase tickets, contact Matt Luce, 512-600-5019.

Caldwell Heights Elementary Artwork
Please stop by and visit the new artwork on the walls on Avery 2nd Floor near the student lounge. The artwork is from Caldwell Heights Elementary School and is inspired by Texas State University’s Common Theme Experience. The 2013-2014 Common Experience theme is: Minds Matter; Exploring Mental Health and Illness. Forth grade students incorporated gears, and cogs to represent the mechanics of thought, inspiration, and feelings. The patterns, colors and brainwave patterns further investigate and represent our various moods and emotions. Thank you Caldwell Heights Elementary and all the artists who contributed!
Teacher Recruitment Program
The Teacher Recruitment Program (TRP) is designed for mid-career adults who hold a baccalaureate degree and desire an accelerated program to attain teacher certification. The deadline for Fall 2014 is March 1, 2014. Information and applications are available online at:
http://www.education.txstate.edu/ci/degrees-programs/graduate/Teacher-Recruitment-Program.html

Teacher Certification Exam Information
Texas law requires every person seeking educator certification to perform satisfactorily on comprehensive exams. The purpose of these exams is to ensure that each educator has the necessary content and professional knowledge to perform effectively in Texas public schools. For information about the policies, test dates/deadlines, practice tests and reviews, study guides, and registration for the exam go to http://education.txstate.edu/oep and click on the appropriate tab at the top of the page.

Information Sessions for Prospective Post-Baccalaureate Students Seeking Teacher Certification
Information Sessions regarding the teacher preparation program are held throughout each semester. For more information go to: http://www.education.txstate.edu/ci/degrees-programs/graduate/Teacher-Recruitment-Program.html

TExES Practice Exam Information
Texas law requires that individuals seeking to become teachers in Texas must pass the TExES in order to become certified. In order to receive a barcode to take the TExES, one must first take the required practice exams.

Practice exams are scheduled at the Round Rock Campus, Avery 455 on the following dates: February 22, March 29, and April 19. Practice exams are also scheduled at the San Marcos campus and a schedule is available from the OEP website http://www.education.txstate.edu/oep/oep-links/texas.html. You may take the practice exams at the location that is most convenient for you. There is no charge for the practice exam, but you must register online in advance at this address: http://www.signup.txstate.edu

Scholarship Seekers
For more information about privately funded scholarships through the College of Education, please go to our Frequently Asked Questions page at http://www.education.txstate.edu/Scholarship-FAQ.html
For other scholarship opportunities, go to the Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships at http://www.finaid.txstate.edu/

Attention CMED and TRP Students
If you are planning to graduate in May 2014, with your Masters degree, you must pass a written comprehensive exam. The exam is free, but you must pre-register. Go to this link for exam registration information: http://www.education.txstate.edu/ci/comps.html

Veterans Affairs
If you are using the GI Bill, please submit the VA Certification Request for Spring 2014 as soon as possible after you register. Hazelwood Exemption and Legacy: If you attended Fall 2013, there is no need to submit paperwork for Hazlewood benefits. If you DO NOT plan to use the benefit, please email js213@txstate.edu, as soon as possible. Check your bill prior to the payment deadlines to make sure your benefits are showing and to pay for any portion that your benefits do not cover.

Student Business Services (SBS) & Financial Aid

Spring 2014 Student Account Deadlines
Tuition & Fee Payment Plan: A $25 late payment fee will be assessed if installment is not paid in full by the due date. Payments are due as follows:
- Registration for students is due by 6 p.m., Thursday, January 9, 2014.
- 2nd Installment for students enrolled in a plan is due by 5 p.m., Friday, March 7, 2014.
- 3rd Installment for students enrolled in a plan is due by 5 p.m., Friday, April 4, 2014.

Emergency Tuition Loans: Payment is due in full by 5 p.m., Friday, April 4, 2014. Emergency Tuition Loans are subject to $25/month late fee each month the loan is delinquent.

Short Term Loans: Payment is due in full by 5 p.m., Friday, April 4, 2014. Short Term Loans are subject to $5/month late payment fee each month the loan is delinquent.

IMPORTANT: If you are not enrolled in a Tuition & Fee Payment Plan, all fees assessed to your student account are due in FULL.

Office of Disability Services
If you have documentation of a disability and want to register with the Office of Disability Services (ODS), you will need to complete a Confidential Student Information form (available upon request) and provide a copy of your disability documentation to Autumn Guel, ODS Liaison, Avery 201. Students may contact Autumn by calling 512-716-4007 or by email at abg35@txstate.edu. For more information please view the website at http://www.ods.txstate.edu/about/RRC.html.
**December 2013**

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**FINAL Exams Dec. 7 – 13**

**Round Rock Events Calendar**

- **Last Class Day**: Dec. 5
- **Finals**: Dec. 7 - 13
- **Book Buyback**: Dec. 11, Room 206 11 a.m. - 7 p.m.
- **Spring 2014 Registration**: Oct. 10 - Dec. 17
- **Fall 2013 Commencement**: Dec. 13 - 14
- **Winter Inter session Hours**: Check our website for hours during intersession!

**Avery Building Hours**

Monday - Thursday 7:30 a.m. - 10:00 p.m.
Friday 7:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Saturday 8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
CLOSED Sunday

If you require an accommodation (information in alternate format, sign language interpreting), due to a disability, please call 716-4001. Accommodation requests should be made at least 72 hours in advance of the program start time to ensure availability.

The next student newsletter publication date is January 13, 2014. In order to promote your student organization, all submissions (information, articles, photos, etc.) must be emailed to jm2274@txstate.edu (Subject: Student Newsletter) by 5 p.m. on January 3rd, 2014.