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Student Disability Services Campus Newsletter, December 2012

University of Northern Iowa. Office of Student Disability Services.

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SDS Newsletter

VOLUME 7, ISSUE 2

DEC 2012

Seasons Greetings!

As we come to the end of another semester, I want to take this time to thank all of you for your dedication in creating inclusive environments for all of UNI's students.

For those of you wanting to learn more about your role in creating an inclusive and welcoming environment for all, I encourage you to contact our office. Members of our staff are always willing to meet with individuals and departments. During these meetings, we can provide you with an overview of the mission and purpose of our

office in addition to providing information on the concept of universal design and how you can incorporate these principles into your office or classroom.

I wish you the best of luck as we head into the final week of the semester and hope that you have a fun, safe, and relaxing winter break. We'll see you again in 2013!

Ashley Brickley
Coordinator
Student Disability Services



Getting to Know Accommodations: Reader/Scribe for Exams

What is a reader/scribe for exams?

Some students with disabilities may need the assistance of a reader or scribe in testing situations. A reader is a person who reads written text aloud or on an audio recording. A scribe is a person who writes or types for a student.



Why is this accommodation provided?

A reader may be necessary for a student who is unable to read or significantly restricted in his/her ability to read due to a disability. A scribe may be necessary for a student who is either unable to write or significantly restricted in his/her ability to write due to a disability.

Does the reader/scribe give the student the correct answers?

No. Readers and scribes **do not** take an active role in the testing situation. Readers and scribes do not offer any explanation of

terms, rephrasing of questions, or give any other input.

For more information about this accommodation and the SDS office, please contact:

Student Disability Services
103 Student Health Center
University of Northern Iowa
Cedar Falls, IA 50614-0385
(319)-273-2677
disabilityservices@uni.edu

Adapted from: Trinity University: Readers and Scribes for Testing Situations Procedure

Helpful Study Strategies for Finals: ASPIRE

Have you ever hesitated to start a project or paper or put off studying for a test? Well, it may be that you just don't know HOW to start. Here are some quick tips to help you relieve your anxiety and uncertainty about completing assignments and studying the right way!

Approach

Approach your studies with a positive attitude.

Select, Survey, Scan

Select a reasonable chunk of material to study

Survey the headings, graphics, pre- and post questions to get an overview

Scan the text for keywords and vocabulary: mark what you don't understand

Put, Piece

Put aside your books and notes

Piece together what you've studied and summarize what you understand.

Investigate, Inquire, Inspect

Investigate alternative sources of information – Read, read, read!

Inquire from support professionals – Instructors & Tutors!

Inspect what you did not understand – Ask questions!

Reexamine, Reflect, Relay

Reexamine the content:

What questions are there yet to ask? Is there something I am missing?

Reflect on the material:

How can I apply this to my project? Is there a new application for it?

Relay understanding:

Can I explain this to my fellow students? Will they understand it better if I do?

Evaluate, Examine, Explore

Evaluate your grades on tests and tasks: look for a pattern

Examine your progress: toward achieving your goals

Explore options: with a teacher, support professional, tutor, parent if you are not satisfied.



Spotlight on Smartphone Applications

The popularity of smartphones has increased all over the nation. Many people do not leave home without their phone, which is also like a mini-computer. Today, there are many applications available, to help with a variety of activities.

Our picks this month are:

1. StudyBlue

StudyBlue is a free app to help you study anywhere, any time. You can create your own flashcards or use sets that have been shared by other users.

2. Mint.com

Mint is a free app to help you keep track of your spending and budgets. Mint pulls all your financial information into one place and keeps track of it, so you don't have to!

3. MyHomework

MyHomework is an app where students can manage every aspect of their school life. Input your class schedule, due dates for assignments, notes, and even set reminders about upcoming exams and projects.



Assistive Technology: Read & Write Gold 10

Now Available for Download!



Read & Write Gold is new software that supports students that have reading and writing difficulties. Read & Write Gold can assist students that have books in alternate format, need website text reading as well as many other features. UNI students, faculty, and staff can now download the software onto a personal computer. For use at home.

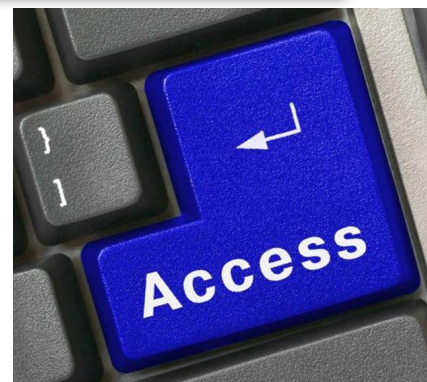
For more information about downloading, visit the ITS

Software and Hardware website:

<http://www.uni.edu/its/software-hardware/personal-purchasing>

Scroll down to "Read and Write Gold" and click the links to follow download instructions. (Active Directory/Lab credentials required)

For help after you have downloaded, check out Read and Write Gold's Website,



texthelp.com for tutorial videos and more!

<http://www.texthelp.com/north-america/support/videos/>

Faculty Resources: Universal Design & Accessibility Resources for Higher Education

Want to learn how to make your class accessible for all students? The University of Washington has some great resources for faculty members. Visit their website at: <http://www.washington.edu/doi/Faculty/Strategies/> for more information.

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) has done great things for individuals with disabilities in the United State. ADA-one.com is an independent organization that works to spread information about the ADA and how it protects individuals with disabilities. Visit this link to find a PDF of resources for creating access to Higher Education: <http://ada-one.com/pdf/ResourceLinks.pdf>



Helping Students
Gain Access

Student Disability Services Staff

103 Student Health Center
Cedar Falls, IA 50614-0385
(319) 273-2677

(For Deaf or Hard of Hearing, use Relay 711)
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