



Stanislaus Family E-News

Stanislaus Parents Association
California State University, Stanislaus
December 2006

Important Dates

**Fall Semester
Final Exams**
Dec. 12-16

**Holiday Break-campus
closed**
Dec. 26-Jan 2

Winter Term
Jan. 3-Feb. 2

**Martin Luther King
Day- campus closed**
Jan. 15

**Lincoln's Birthday-
offices open**
Feb. 8

Spring Semester
Feb. 13-May 31

**President's Day- classes
held**
Feb. 19

**Financial Aid Priority
Filing Deadline for
2007-08**

**March 1
Cesar Chavez Day-
campus closed**
March 30

**Spring Break- offices
open, no classes**
April 9-13

**Memorial Day- campus
closed**
May 28

Commencement
June 2

December: Finals, Registration, and the Holidays

The last month of the year is filled with lots of activities and stress. For students, this is the time of year when they are preparing for finals, looking for academic advising, registering for classes, finishing up last minute papers, and for some, making travel plans to spend the holidays with family. Many students also find that during this month they neglect their health by skipping meals and not getting enough sleep. Here are a few challenges you may hear from your son or daughter and some suggestions on how to overcome them.

"I need to sign up for classes, but I don't know what to take."

Every student should visit their academic advisor each semester prior to enrolling in classes. In fact, many major departments require advising and students will not be able to register until they have seen their advisor. Academic Advisors can assist students by suggesting what type of courses to take, how many units, and discuss with the student what requirements he or she still has to complete. Students who wish to meet with their advisor must contact their major department to schedule an appointment or find office hours.

"I have a hold on my registration."

Registration holds block students from enrolling in classes and accessing their information. To release a hold the student must visit the department or office that placed the hold. That information can be found on their student online records.

"I don't think I am going to pass a class."

Tell them to not give up yet. They still have time to catch up on studying, get a free tutor from the Tutoring Center or form a study group. The worst thing that a student can do is give up and stop attending classes. Students can also speak to their advisor to see if they have any additional grading options based on their circumstance.

"I have so much to do and don't know where to start."

Many students, especially first year students, may feel overwhelmed by the amount of work they have to do before the end of the semester. One way to start tackling those projects is to get organized. Students can put their tasks in order by making a to-do list and then scheduling dates to complete each item. This allows students to set goals for their assignments and manage their workload.

Parents Program
California State
University, Stanislaus

PARENT'S
HOTLINE:
209-664-6632

OR

PARENTS
@CSUSTAN.EDU

PARENTS
LISTSERVE:
(communicate with
other parents by
sending an email to
the listserve)

Parents-
program@listbot.
csustan.edu

We're on the Web!

See us at:

[www.csustan.edu/
parents](http://www.csustan.edu/parents)

iTunes: Save the Lecture

The California State University system has adopted iTunes U software that lets students download podcasts of lectures, campus news, and class notes into their portable iPod systems.

The iTunes U service, developed by Apple Computer, Inc., enables students to download audio and video images, as well as graphics, onto their Macintosh or PC computers. They can then copy the data to their iPods to listen or view the data later. Students and professors using this free service are linked to university news and information concerning academics and student events. The iTunes service enables students and professors to upload and share content in and out of the classroom as well.

"Walking across a CSU campus, it seems that every other student is listening to an iPod. That's why this technology is such a natural fit to our campuses," said Dr. Gary Reichard, executive vice chancellor at CSU. "This software and its applications complement CSU's objective to continually adopt the latest technologies for enhancing learning on and off campus."

Peter Beyerdorf, associate professor of physics at San Jose State University, agreed that iTunes U applications are great resources for students and professors. He also believes it provides professors additional pathways to be available for their students outside of the classroom.

For more information, contact Paul Browning at (562) 951-4064 or by email at pbrowning@calstate.edu or www.calstate.edu

This article was provided by Debbie Dutra, Junior Staff at the Signal. The Signal is the official newspaper of California State University, Stanislaus.

Understanding the CSU Stanislaus Lingo ***What is the Winter Term?***

Winter term is held in January in between the fall and spring semesters. The winter term offers students the opportunity to complete general education, major or minor requirements in this unique, short, fast paced term. One of the objectives of winter term is to allow the student to dedicate this time to study an individual subject. Some students like to take a challenging course that they would like to take uninterrupted. Others prefer to take a less challenging class to earn units but still have some time to rest before the next semester starts. Regardless of what type of class a student takes, students should be cautious in registering for winter term. Advisors suggest that students only take one class during the term. This is also a good time for remedial students (students taking pre-college math and/or English) to take a remedial course.

Please go to www.csustan.edu/classschedule/ to view the courses that are offered during winter term.