

# PEER to PEER

## The College of Arts and Sciences Academic Student Newsletter

### Resources you should know about in Bender Library

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**Student FAQ of the Month:**

**Q:** How do I put together a well balanced schedule?

**A:** The exact balance is going to be different for each student, but it's important to work toward completing both general education and major requirements.

If you are still undecided, choose GenEds that might lead to a potential major.

For those who have declared a major, take at least 1 or 2 courses that satisfy requirements.

The Peer Advisors can help you find the right balance for your needs, so make an appointment with us today!



Do you know about all the great resources at the AU Library? Some

students may go through their entire four years without realizing what's available! Here's just some of what the library has to offer:

- Laptops, Dell Chargers, VGA Mac Adapters, Headphones, and more are available to rent from the Technology Services Desk on the Lower Level.
- Media Services has hundreds of DVD's available for 3 day rentals. They get

new movies regularly, and they also have lots of full seasons of TV shows.

- The Reference librarians are free to help with your research whenever their desk is open. They can help you navigate the databases, the resources from the consortium, and more!
- The Career Center in Butler Pavilion has teamed up with Bender Library to offer all their career resources for circulation. You can search their collection using the ALADIN catalog.

- Don't waste money on textbooks when you can borrow them for 2 hours at a time from the Reserves Desk! The library also has scanners that you can use for free to make an electronic copy.
- If you need to use design or editing software, Media Services has computers with these programs installed that you can use for free!

This is just a short list of the available resources, so be sure to check out [american.edu/library](http://american.edu/library) to learn more!

### What You Should Know about Summer Courses

Summer courses are a great option for students looking to complete requirements or to lighten their course load during the academic year. AU students have three options for summer courses:

1. AU offers four on-campus sessions over the summer. Courses offered include general education classes, as well as courses that fulfill major requirements. Students pay per credit for these courses.
2. AU also offers online classes, which are a great way to fulfill requirements without having to stay in DC over the summer. The tuition for online classes is less than tuition for on-campus courses. As with on-campus classes,

there are multiple sessions offered throughout the summer.

3. AU students may also choose to attend courses at another approved 4-year institution. Students wishing to pursue this option must receive *prior* approval from the Dean, and should also keep in mind that they *cannot* take general education courses outside of AU. **Once an Eagle, always an Eagle!**

To read more about registration dates, session dates, tuition, and requirements of summer courses, visit <http://www.american.edu/provost/registrar/summer/index.cfm>. Feel free to contact your CAS academic advisor or peer advisor with any questions!



## 2nd Annual Peer Advisor Workshop: It's a "Major" Event!

Come join us for the second annual CAS Peer Advisor workshop! This year we will be partnering with the **Career Center Peer Advisors** to offer a one-of-a-kind major exploration workshop. We will be offering tools to help you gain a clearer picture of what you would like to major in by exploring your interests. The Peer Advisors from the Career Center will cover what a major in the field could lead to and how to market your major to potential employers.

The Career Center Peers will also hold a **resume critique** at the close of the workshop, so bring along your resume for feedback.

The workshop will be held in **Battelle Atrium** on **April 5th**, from **8:30-9:30pm**. Refreshments will be served.

While everyone is welcome to attend, the workshop is geared for first and second year undecided students in CAS.

If you would like to attend, please **RSVP by April 1st** so we have enough food for everyone. You may RSVP by sending an **email with your name and student ID to: CASPeerAdvisors@american.edu** (RSVP preferred but not required.)

We hope to see you there!



## Tips from your Peer Advisors: Mid-semester Check in



Mid-semester is a great time for evaluating the progress you have made this semester and figuring out ways to make the rest of your semester successful. Here are some questions you can ask yourself to evaluate your progress:

- How did I do on my mid-term exams? What study strategies worked for me? Do I need to spend more time preparing for exams?
- What sort of grades am I receiving on papers and homework assign-

ments? Is the quality of my work improving as the semester goes on?

- Have I met with my professor to ask questions about readings or lecture material?
- What have my academic strengths been this semester? My weaknesses?

Once you've evaluated your progress, set goals to help you make the second half of the semester even more successful than the first. There is always room for improvement!

If you would like more study techniques or help with any of your courses, check in with the Academic Support Center in MGC room 243.

## Important Reminders:

- 3/17: Visiting Writer Series presents Amy Bloom. 5-9pm, Butler Board Room. See Literature Department for more information.
- 3/26: Writing Proficiency Exam. 10am-1pm, Ward 2. Contact the Literature Department in Battelle 237 for more information.
- 4/1: Deadline to RSVP of Peer Advising Workshop. Please email CASPeerAdvisors@american.edu by 5pm so we know to expect you!
- 4/5: Peer Advising Workshop. See article above for more information.

