What Parents Can Do
To Provide Support

ACADEMIC EXPECTATIONS
Students experience increased freedom to make independent decisions on how much and when to study. Many students initially try to juggle a full course load with social demands and work, but do not devote nearly enough time to academics. College students tend to procrastinate and underestimate the amount of time required by course assignments.

During the first year, reinforce that academics are the main priority. Recommend to your students that to be academically successful, they need to devote 3-4 hours each day, in addition to time spent in class, to studies. This should include participation in tutoring, supplemental instruction and visiting the Writing Studio.

ACADEMIC AND CAREER PLANNING
As students encounter new subjects, interact with peers and faculty, and learn more about their talents and interests, they are likely to reevaluate prior career plans. It is common for students to change majors several times, particularly during the first year of college.

But switching majors can affect time to graduation, so encourage your student to always discuss plans with the academic advisor. Also urge your student to talk with other campus resources, such as Career Services staff and course instructors, who can help explore career paths related to certain fields of study.

ADJUSTMENT
The first year of college is a learning process as students adjust to increased personal and intellectual demands. Students may react under stress with frustration, withdrawal, anger, and homesickness. Most often, college students simply want to vent to family as they seek an understanding ear and unconditional support.

Expect a few bumps in the road as your students adjust to heightened expectations in college. Listen to concerns, and share your expectation that they can take action by speaking with the appropriate campus resources, or by visiting academic advisors. When students find they are struggling academically, they should meet with an academic counselor to work on a plan.

ORGANIZATION
College students must learn to manage their time wisely and track dates of multiple demands on their time. Email is the primary way that faculty and staff communicate with students about assignments, appointments, and other official university business.

Encourage your student to take advantage of faculty office hours. Remind your student to check NCCU email every day, and to use some form of a planner.

University College Phone Numbers

DEAN’S OFFICE
919-530-5235

ACADEMIC ADVISING
919-530-6129

DEVELOPMENTAL AND SUPPLEMENTAL LEARNING
919-530-6932

MENTORING PROGRAM
919-530-7042

UNIVERSITY TESTING CENTER
919-530-7367

WRITING STUDIO
919-530-6035

Other Important Phone Numbers

EAGLE SERVICE CALL CENTER
919-530-6180

PARENT AND FAMILY ASSOCIATION / NEW STUDENT SERVICES
919-530-6336

STUDENT ACCOUNTING
919-530-5071

UNIVERSITY POLICE
919-530-6106

UNIVERSITY SWITCHBOARD
919-530-6100

1801 Fayetteville Street
Alexander-Dunn Building
Durham, NC 27707
Deans’ Office: 919-530-5235
Email: universitycollege1@nccu.edu
www.nccu.edu/universitycollege

Facebook
Twitter
www.facebook/NCCUniversityCollege
www.twitter.com/NCCUnivCollege
Paid for using U.S. Department of Education Title III Funds
The University College is a division of North Carolina Central University that works solely with freshmen, sophomores and transfers to promote academic success, retention, and graduation. We support the goal of graduation within four years by ensuring students take advantage of the full range of services available within the University College.

Throughout their time within University College, students develop a relationship with an assigned academic advisor through individual and group sessions while learning about degree requirements, policies, procedures and resources. Academic advisors help students explore majors, develop an educational plan based on interests and abilities, and monitor progress toward graduation.

We offer a range of developmental and supplemental learning services that prepare students to meet the academic rigor of the university. Students are encouraged to seek academic support through individual tutoring, the Writing Studio, and supplemental instruction peer-led sessions. Students having academic difficulties meet weekly with academic counselors who help to develop goals, establish study habits and schedules, and refer to other services on campus. Campus-wide Lyceum events — outstanding lectures, recitations, concerts, dramas, and exhibitions — enrich learning. Student engagement workshops enhance lifelong and practical skills.

We encourage participation in a host of supportive learning resources to achieve these learning outcomes. University College therefore provides all new students with an academic advising syllabus that outlines necessary steps to increase skills and build character. Self-motivation is key to college success; academic advisors meet with students regularly to assist with needs or challenges that may arise.

Parents, we ask for your assistance and encouragement to promote a smooth transition for academic success. The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) is a federal privacy law that states students who are 18 years or older enrolled in higher education are the sole guardians of their academic records. Therefore, we urge all students to complete a FERPA consent included with the advising syllabus during orientation to allow communication between student, parents and administrators.

Advising in University College

Advising matters in University College and is a critical component of student success at NCCU as students make the transition from high school or another college. We understand that adaptation to new living arrangements, college schedules and academic expectations may be overwhelming at first. However, by the end of the second year in University College, our goals are for students to develop:

- A clear plan for a path to graduation
- Interpersonal relationships
- Intellectual and academic mastery of subjects and content in a self-directed learning environment
- Awareness of diversity and liberal arts values
- Civic, social, community and personal responsibility
- Community and school spirit

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Supplemental Instruction

SI leaders work one-on-one with faculty members to assist students currently enrolled in a course. Sessions are peer-led.

Lyceum Events

A series of outstanding lectures, recitations, concerts, dramas and exhibitions to enrich student learning.

Grades First

Electronic appointment-scheduling and online resource for students to view current schedule, GPA, calendar and progress notes by instructors.

Academic Advising

Educates students through individual and group meetings about degree requirements, policies and procedures, and resources while exploring majors, developing an educational plan and monitoring progress towards graduation.

Academic Counseling

Individual consultation to achieve personal and academic goals.

Academic Tutoring

Traditional professional and peer-led group academic assistance.

Instructors

Individual assistance during instructors’ office hours to review course materials and concerns.

Writing Studio

Consultation with professional staff to discuss and enhance written and oral skills.

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University Testing Center

Administration of placement tests, exam proctoring, distance education examinations, and tests including TOEFL, MCAT, GRE, PRAXIS, CLEP, and DSST (DANTES).

Writing Studio

Consultation with professional staff to discuss and enhance written and oral skills.