Ten Ways to Make the Dean’s List!

1. **Be there** - Both attendance and attention count. Connect with your professors and classmates inside and outside of class, and be engaged when you study (reduce interference from competing “noise”, both external and internal).

2. **Care** - Set goals for your learning and make sure school is a priority.

3. **ABC (Always Be Curious)** - Ask questions, don’t fear not knowing, welcome the ambiguity and intellectual confusion that accompany learning.

4. **Know how you learn** - Reflect on what you need in order to learn most easily. This could include discussion, finding concrete examples, using pictures and diagrams, or writing summaries and reactions. Use your strengths to compensate for weaknesses.

5. **See the big picture** - Make calendars of the whole quarter, plan with your advisor, do textbook overviews, interrelate topics as you study.

6. **Strengthen background knowledge** - New learning builds on previous learning, so fill in gaps in your general knowledge through reading, lectures, discussion, films, websites, etc.

7. **Develop systems** - Make what works for you a habit. Textbook reading, test preparation, time management and note taking can be systematized.

8. **Review daily** - Work with your notes after each class by labeling, summarizing, or discussing them with a study partner.

9. **Take one step at a time** - Break down tasks into manageable steps, forgive yourself for slipping back, maintain perspective about the “dance of life” - two steps forward and one step back!

10. **Use resources** - Seek the support you need from people and services on and off campus. Professors, Learning Assistance Programs, Writing Center, Math Lab, Counseling and Psychological Services, Career Services, Academic Advisors, Research Librarians and the Office of Multicultural Affairs are among those resources.