

Headline: A new journey: finding your place as a college freshman

College is not easy for anyone. Everyone was once in your shoes too. Everyone comes from different backgrounds and they are probably having the same thoughts as you. Here are three ways to find your place and survive as a college freshman.

Get comfortable being uncomfortable

Being a freshman at college opens up new opportunities for you. There's always the awkward phase when meeting new people and that's ok. Go sit next to someone you don't know; you might have a lot in common. Some of the friends I had in college were ones I met on my first day. Go join a club that interests you. There's a club for almost everything from chess to a Star Wars club. When you join a club, you are with people that share a common interest.

Balance your class schedule

You may think, "I had class at 8 a.m. in high school, I can do that in college." I had the same thought and I regretted it. Sometimes I would stay up late working on homework or being out and I would feel exhausted the next morning. When choosing classes, think about the lasting outcome and finding the right balance. There's nothing wrong with an 8 a.m. lecture, it's about how it will impact you at school. Also don't cram your class schedule all in one day or have two classes separated by 7 hours. Talk with your adviser and don't overwhelm yourself.

Balance the fun and schoolwork

Always remember to have fun while in college. There are free events to attend as a student. From sporting events to free food, there are countless opportunities to have fun. Balance your social life and schoolwork early on as it will save you stress later down the road. You don't want to cram all of your homework/studying right before finals.

Freshman year is the foundation for the rest of your college experience. Though there will be hard times, embrace and enjoy the memories. You're not alone in figuring it out.