

# Got High GPA

by Courtney Taylor

Fayetteville State University has a strict policy clearly stating that if you do not have a 2.0 GPA or above, you will not receive financial aid. This policy alone has struck me with the reality that, especially as an out-of-state student, I need to buckle down and do what I have to do to maintain a 2.0 GPA. College is very expensive without financial aid. Here are a few pointers that will help you to maintain an acceptable grade point average.

You must stay focused! It can be so easy to lose focus as

a student in college. There are campus parties, entertaining seminars, hundreds of interesting people, hanging with your significant other, etc. It is possible to involve yourself on campus and maintain a 2.0; students do it all the time. If FSU has a pep rally at 2:00 pm, which is the same time class is scheduled, stay focused and head to class. It is pretty safe to guarantee FSU will have another one you can attend.

Secondly, use your classes' syllabus to your advantage. The syllabi is given for a reason, therefore read it and use

it. There is nothing like completing assignments ahead of time. From experience, it feels so much better and relieves stress when you know you have completed an assignment in advance. If the professor provides a syllabus in January and it shows that a 10-15 research paper is due the second week in March, do not wait until the first of March to begin; immediately get started and make your personal due date for the paper mid-February. Prevent the feeling of pressure when all types of papers and assignments are thrown at once. This is definitely

a responsible technique for those who plan to join a Greek organization!

My third approach is to simply go to class! Nine times out of 10, a student does not have sufficient reason to miss class. Many students do it out of irresponsibility, laziness, staying up too late, spending time with their significant other or friends, or partying. Those are not excuses. Divide your time wisely and responsibly. It is understandable that you are young, away from home, and are not subjected to being told what to do, but aren't

you in college for higher learning first? Just go to class! Situations do spring up beyond control and this is where responsibility surfaces; contact your instructor via phone or email to let him or her know about your absence ahead of time. This is a process required of professionals in the corporate world anyway, so get some practice in.

College is the era in one's life filled with experiences, fun, and networking, but overall it is the time for advancing one's knowledge. There shouldn't be any excuse for a student's

GPA to fall below a 2.0. With these guidelines it is safe to guarantee a healthy GPA. Witness the amazement of transformation. Keep in mind that this is not only your education, but your money. Will you withdraw \$10,000 out of your account and flush it down the toilet? Of course not! Constantly keep this analogy in mind when urges of not going to class or losing focus make their appearance.

It is time to buckle down, Broncos. Forget about settling for less. Education should be the number one priority.

# Grooming Your Public Parts

by L'Asia Brown

As a proud staff member of the Voice newspaper, I am privileged to have an office in the Rudolph Jones Student Center, a great, central location that allows me to eat at the Bronco Grill, socialize in the game room, or attend a variety of events that often take place a couple steps away in the Olivia Chavis Multipurpose Room. This strategic location also allows me to listen in on groups of students who hold private conversations very publicly while walking past the door. Many of these conversations are X-rated. I've heard an interesting assortment of profane terms in discussions ranging from intimacy with the opposite sex to how some students feel about the office of financial aid.

People may feel however they please, but they should be careful who they express these emotions around. For example, the advisor for the Voice Newspaper, a popular former WRAL News Anchor, accompanies me in the cozy office on Tuesdays and Thursdays. She is well-known in the triangle area, where many communication majors attempt to begin their careers after graduating from college. If she witnessed a communications major making loud, vulgar statements, then had to interview that same individual two weeks later for an entry level job in the Communications department at Fayetteville State, that applicant might as well throw their application in the trash...because she already knows that he or she has no regard for his or her public professional image.

Some would argue that the first amendment of the United States Constitution guarantees the right of free speech to those who inhabit America. As a college journalist, I am the first to agree and appreciate that right, but I am also the first to say with caution, there is a small invisible disclaimer under that right that guarantees people will judge you based upon your public persona, whether they know you or not. Depending on who is judging you, being careless with the way you display yourself in public could cost more than you bargained for.

This doesn't mean you should suit up and get a pedicure for a Saturday outing with the boys, nor does it constitute whispers, perfect posture and sheer nylon for a movie date with the ladies. It only means that as students we are aspiring to be future professionals. We must remain conscious and always conduct ourselves in the appropriate manner. The student center does not call for office behavior, but it is not your personal dorm room either. People should completely refrain from using profanity in a public setting. Your immediate circle of friends may not mind the language, but others may. We also can not forget children, who are perhaps the most absorbent of us all.

- Follow us on Twitter: <http://twitter.com/fsuvoice>
- Become our fan on Facebook: Fayetteville State University's The Voice Newspaper
- By phone: 910-672-2210
- Editor in Chief, L'Asia Brown [lbrown15@broncos.uncfsu.edu](mailto:lbrown15@broncos.uncfsu.edu)

- Copy Editor, Allyssa Hubbard: [ahubbar4@broncos.uncfsu.edu](mailto:ahubbar4@broncos.uncfsu.edu)
- Photography Editor, Monique Vaughn: [mvaughn@broncos.uncfsu.edu](mailto:mvaughn@broncos.uncfsu.edu)
- Managing Editor, Shante' Elliott: [selliott8@broncos.uncfsu.edu](mailto:selliott8@broncos.uncfsu.edu)
- Business Manager, Nathalie Rivera: [nrivera1@broncos.uncfsu.edu](mailto:nrivera1@broncos.uncfsu.edu)
- Advisor, Valonda Calloway: [vcallowa@uncfsu.edu](mailto:vcallowa@uncfsu.edu)