

# MUSTANGS CONNECT

Discover. Engage. Lead.

## Important Dates

**Mar 9-Mar 13**  
Spring Break (No Classes)

**Mar 12**  
Final Payment Due Date for  
SMSU Payment Plan

**Mar 26**  
All Student Advising (Classes held  
5:30 p.m. on)

**Mar 30**  
Fall 2025 Registration Begins

## Deeann Griebel Student Success Center

Individualized Learning 224

(507) 537-6484

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## Greetings from SMSU:

Hello, Mustang Family!

As we near the midpoint of the semester at SMSU, students are eagerly awaiting this month's spring break. This time away from classes gives students the opportunity to relax, refocus, and prepare for fall registration once they return.

As a reminder, we encourage students to participate in our '15 to Finish' campaign, as taking 15 credits each semester keeps students on track to graduate in four years. Students should be prepared with fall semester course options when they meet with their advisor on All Student Advising Day, Thursday, March 26. Depending on their registration window, students may begin registering for fall courses on March 30.

This point in the semester typically brings an increase in projects and midterm exams. At SMSU, we care about each student's success, which is why this month's newsletter highlights testing accommodations through Accessibility Services, along with how students can make the most out of midterms. As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please contact our office by calling (507) 537-6484 or emailing [SUCCESS@SMSU.edu](mailto:SUCCESS@SMSU.edu).

Go Mustangs!



*Brittany Krull*

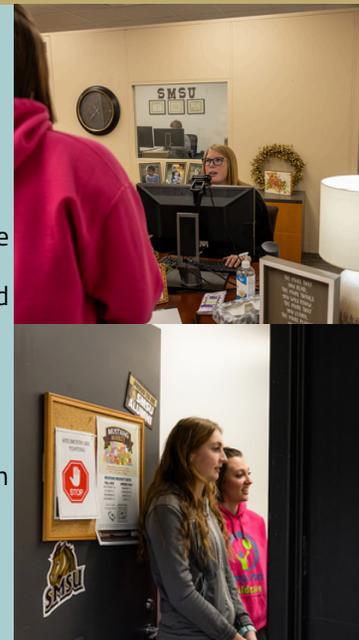
Director of Student Success

# Success Spotlight: Testing Accommodations

Here at SMSU, we realize that testing can be difficult for students for a variety of reasons including anxiety, trouble focusing, and time constraints. This is why we offer services designed to ensure academic success for our students.

SMSU Accessibility Services has procedures and opportunities in place that allow students who struggle with testing to seek out strategies and/or accommodations to improve their learning experience. If students are having difficulties in class, they are always encouraged to reach out to their professors and set up a plan to improve their grades and explore available support options. If a student feels like they would benefit from a testing accommodation and can provide proper documentation, they should contact Accessibility Services by calling (507) 537-7318 or emailing [Vickie.Abel@SMSU.edu](mailto:Vickie.Abel@SMSU.edu) to receive more information.

Students should follow up with Accessibility Services to learn which testing accommodations have been approved and then notify their professors of those accommodations. Students will also be required to fill out a test proctoring form four days in advance of an exam and arrange that their professor sends the exam to Accessibility Services. Those students who are approved for extended testing time can receive up to 1.5 times the normal in-class test period.



# Success Strategy: Making the Most of Midterms

Aside from finals, one of the most influential points in the semester for a student's grades are midterms. It is important for students to focus and prepare for these exams in advance to ensure that they reach their full potential in class. Below are some helpful tips for your Mustang to make the most out of their midterm exams:

[Speak Up](#): Faculty members are the first step for students to get helpful information about midterms. Looking back at course syllabi and class notes can also offer critical hints as to what will be tested. The syllabi may even include information about what types of questions will be on the exam such as T/F, multiple choice, or essays, as well as whether or not notes or textbooks can be used during the exam.

[Make a Study Schedule](#): Students should create a study schedule once they have a basic idea of what to expect on their midterm. They should plan how they are going to study for each course and allocate their time appropriately to more challenging courses.

[Review Notes and Tests](#): The best way to review for midterms is to look back at past worksheets, handouts, notes, and textbook chapters covered in class to solidify information.

[Form a Study Group](#): Some learning styles benefit from social settings. Connecting with other students can offer new perspectives on course materials and help clarify the course content.

[Study Smarter](#): SMSU offers students tutoring in a variety of subjects on campus, as well as free, 24/7 online tutoring through Tutor.com. These options allow students to access a variety of tutoring for content clarification, no matter when they need help.

[Understand Each Subject is Different](#): Students may have multiple midterm exams that require different studying methods. For example, creating notecards can be helpful for a history or memorization test, while practicing problems may be a great idea for a math test.

[Mix It Up](#): While studying, students should take short breaks and switch between study materials to remain engaged and focused.

[Change the Scenery](#): Just as switching study subjects periodically helps students remember more, so can changing a studying location. Relocating from a dorm to the library can help re-center students.

[Don't Skimp on Sleep](#): To do well on exams, students need to be well rested. All-night study sessions are not recommended since they leave students tired and unfocused.

[Stay Positive](#): Test anxiety is real. To be successful, students should have a smart plan, remain focused during studying, and have a calm morning before exams.

