

Rizza, Salvatore A.

From: Rizza, Salvatore A.
Sent: Wednesday, December 6, 2023 2:47 PM
To: families@lists.southernct.edu
Subject: Parent/Family Update: Week 15
Attachments: ATT00001.txt

Dear Owl Families,

We hope you are all well!

In this email you will find:

1. Message from the Director of Orientation, Transition & Family Engagement
2. Residence Halls Closing
3. Resources

Message from the Director of Orientation, Transition & Family Engagement

Dear Parents and Families!

Next week is Finals Week!

Prior to sharing information regarding Finals Week, Winter Closing and some important tips, I'd like to share something meaningful that all first-year students have experienced.

For those of you who have **students in their first semester at Southern**, you probably know that they are in an **INQ (Inquiry) course** which is a first-year seminar course. As part of the this course, students complete a **FYRE project** which involves research, critical thought and a great deal of time and effort. Most students will present their projects in class and some even have had the opportunity to display their work to the campus community! It may mean a lot to your students to show interest in this work by asking them about their project, the topic they chose and what they learned from it. In speaking to students, so many are proud of their FYRE projects! You should be too!

Here are some important tips to support students throughout the final weeks of the semester.

1. Provide students with the time, space and opportunity they need to complete their projects, essays and study for their exams. Visit <https://libguides.southernct.edu/hours> to view the hours in Buley Library for the next week.
2. Remind them that academic support is available in the Center of Academic Success and Accessibility Services (<https://inside.southernct.edu/casas>).
3. The Wellbeing Center has many resources to assist in managing stress (<https://inside.southernct.edu/wellbeing>).
4. If they are "stuck" and aren't sure where to turn, encourage them to reach out to the many individuals who are here to help such as Peer Mentors and INQ Professors for first-year students, Residence Life staff for residential students, coaches for athletes, Access Program Advocates for students connected to the access programs, all students have faculty advisors, and the list goes on! And please know that my office (third floor of Buley Library) is always available as well.
5. **Finals Week** begins on Monday, December 11th and concludes on Saturday, December 17th.

- a. The Final Exam schedule varies from a student's current course schedule. They should visit <https://inside.southernct.edu/scheduling/final-exams> to make sure they know exactly when their final exams will be held and MORE importantly should be reviewing their syllabus as well as connecting with their professors if they have questions.
- b. If a student has three exams on one day (which occasionally happens) they should notify their professor.

I shared this last week and think these are important dates to share again:

- A. **Payment Deadline** for the Spring 2023 is December 15th (<https://inside.southernct.edu/onestop/bill-payment/bill-pay>).
- B. Students should have **registered for their Spring 2024** courses at this point in time. *New incoming students follow a different protocol.*
- C. **Final Grades** will be released by 5pm on December 22nd. Prior to that day, we will share some tips on how to celebrate and support students especially for those that are in their first semester.

We wish you students luck and please feel free to contact our office if we can be of support to you.

Sincerely,

Sal Rizza
Director of Orientation, Transition & Family Engagement

From Residence Life regarding Winter Closing

Good Afternoon Residential Students,

We hope you had a wonderful Thanksgiving Break and have returned to campus rested and ready to finish your semester strong! With the end of the semester rapidly approaching, we wanted to provide you with some important information regarding winter break closing. Please read the information below carefully and reach out to your Resident Advisor or Residence Hall Director with any questions or concerns.

Winter Break Closing Information for all Residents:

- **You must vacate your hall on the day of your last final exam.**
- The deadline for requests to stay late and the winter break housing application is Sunday, December 10th, 2023. (*See below: Winter Break Housing or Staying Beyond Closing*).
- You are required to prepare your room for the break and check out with a staff member. (*See below: Closing Instructions: Returning to the Same Room*).
- Residence Hall Directors and Resident Advisors will be inspecting your room/apartment after you leave for health and safety reasons and to ensure it is prepared for the break.
- If you are changing rooms or not returning for the spring semester, you must remove all your belongings, return your key, and completely check out of your residence hall with a staff member. (*See below: Closing Instructions: Not Returning or Changing Rooms*).
- If you wish to report a maintenance issue, please complete the [online maintenance request form](#).
- Quiet Hours begin at 10:00 p.m. on Thursday, December 7th, and remain in effect throughout the end of the semester.
- Overnight guests are not permitted starting on Thursday, December 7th throughout the end of the semester.
- Move-in for Spring 2024 is scheduled for January 16th, 2024, between 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.

Additional Time for Closing:

If you require additional time (up until noon on Saturday, December 16th) to vacate your residence hall due to a late final exam or extenuating circumstances, please submit your request by completing the Winter Break Housing Application and select the option to check out by noon on Saturday, December 16th. The Winter Break Housing Application can be found in your MyHousing and closes at 10:00 p.m. on Sunday, December 10th, 2023.

Winter Break Housing:

Any resident registered for spring 2024 classes and placed in housing for spring 2024 is eligible to remain on campus during the winter break. To request to stay, please complete the Winter Break Housing application in your MyHousing by 10:00 p.m. on Sunday, December 10th. The fee for winter break housing is \$40.00 per night.

To reach the application:

- Log in to your Banner Student account.
- Select "MyHousing"
- Next to the Residence Life logo in the top left-hand corner, click on the three lines.
- Select "Applications".
- Click "Winter Break Housing".

Please note: If you choose winter break housing, you will remain in your current housing assignment for winter break. *If you will be changing rooms for the spring semester, you will be relocating to your new spring assignment on Monday, December 18th between 10:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.*

Closing Instructions: Returning to the Same Room:

Please make sure the following tasks are completed before leaving for the semester break.

- Take home any valuables or items you will need during the break. You will not have access to your room over the break and the university is not responsible for items lost or stolen over the break.
- **Take out all garbage to the dumpster adjacent to your residence hall.**
- Lock all windows and close all curtains and blinds.
- Unplug every electrical unit in your room/apartment except for refrigerators, cable boxes, modems, and aquariums. *Please ensure all refrigerators, cable boxes, and modems are left plugged in!
 - Clean the inside of your refrigerator and the inside of your microwave.
- If you wish to report a maintenance issue, please complete the [online maintenance request form](#).
- **Complete the closing form posted on your room door and be sure to check out with a Residence Life staff member before you leave.**
- Please follow any additional closing procedures set forth by your residence hall director.

Closing Instructions: Not Returning or Changing Rooms for the Spring:

If you are not returning to housing for the spring 2024 semester or have requested a room change for the spring, please complete the following steps at checkout:

- Remove all belongings from the room.
- Clean the room thoroughly. Double-check your closet (both inside and on top of the closet), dresser drawers, and desk drawers to make sure you have packed up all your belongings.
- Take out all garbage to the dumpster adjacent to your residence hall.
- Lock all windows and close all curtains and blinds.
- Unplug every electrical unit in your room/apartment except for refrigerators, cable boxes, modems, and aquariums. *Please make sure that all refrigerators, cable boxes, and modems are left plugged in!
- Clean the inside of your refrigerator and the inside of your microwave.
- If you wish to report a maintenance issue, please complete the [online maintenance request form](#).
- **Check out with a Residence Life staff member, return your key, and complete the room condition check-out process with your Residence Life staff.**

Meal Plans:

Students can **change their meal plan** for the spring semester (if eligible based on your room assignment and if you are not a first-year student) starting today, Friday, December 1st, 2023, until Friday, February 2nd, 2024. **After February 2nd, all meal plans are final for the semester.**

You can change your meal plan online through your MyHousing by selecting the “Meal Plan” tab and choosing any of the available options in the Spring 2024 term.

A note about packages:

Please note that all packages delivered during the break will be held in the Office of Residence Life (Schwartz Hall Room 105) until the week of January 15th, 2024. If you need to receive items during the break, please ensure that you update your delivery address to your break address/location. We also recommend pausing or delaying deliveries and updating any subscriptions, if applicable, until after the break, if possible.

If you need to retrieve a package from the office during the break, you must email us at reslife@southernct.edu in advance to set up a pickup time. Access will be limited.

Dining Hours During Finals Week:

- Connecticut Hall:
 - Monday through Thursday: Normal business hours
 - Friday: Closes at 2:30 p.m.
- Student Center:
 - Monday through Wednesday: Normal business hours (All locations except Sub Connection)
 - Thursday: Closes at 6:30 p.m. (All locations except Sub Connection)
 - Friday: Closed (All locations)
 - Sub Connection will be closed Wednesday through Friday.
- Bagel Wagon & The Owls Perch:
 - Monday through Wednesday: Normal business hours
 - Thursday: Closes at 6:30 p.m.
 - Friday: Closed
- Roberta’s: (Located in North Campus)
 - Monday through Wednesday: Normal business hours
 - Thursday and Friday: Closed

If you have any questions regarding winter break closing, please do not hesitate to contact your Resident Advisor, Residence Hall Director, or the Office of Residence Life at (203) 392-5870 or send us an email at reslife@southernct.edu. We are open Mondays through Fridays from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Good luck with your finals! We hope you all have a wonderful break and a prosperous new year! We look forward to welcoming you back for the spring 2024 semester.

Sincerely,
The Office of Residence Life

Office of Residence Life | Southern Connecticut State University
501 Crescent Street | New Haven, CT 06515
T: 203.392.5870 | **F:** 203.392.5867 | **E:** reslife@southernct.edu
W: www.southernct.edu/residencelife



Resources

Helpful Links- <https://inside.southernct.edu/parent-family/helpful-links> , these are a number of helpful links that we have gathered specifically for parents/families that will be helpful now and in the future.

Resources- <https://inside.southernct.edu/inside-southern>, these is another general page filled with links that may be helpful!

Residence Life- <https://inside.southernct.edu/residence-life>, with so many questions regarding residence life, this may be a great place to find information!

Advising- <https://inside.southernct.edu/advising>, information regarding academic advising.

University Calendar- <https://calendar.southernct.edu/>

Academic Calendar- <https://catalog.southernct.edu/undergraduate/academic-calendar.html?fbclid=IwAR1sTtbXODwnV3QixzKk4KcsMw4rMXo2c4VasAlAndGGQewphMqSK3TnCNs>

You were subscribed to this listserv as your email is listed in your student's profile based on their initial application to Southern.

The emails you will receive will include the information we send to your students, additional strategies specifically designed for parents/families and how they can best support their students and general information regarding the university.

As we will be intentional on the information we send, we will try not to "flood" your inbox and be very strategic on sending the most pertinent information.

We also invite you to join our Parent/Family Facebook Group, <https://www.facebook.com/groups/scsuparents/>.

However, if you prefer not to receive future emails, please unsubscribe by replying to this email.
