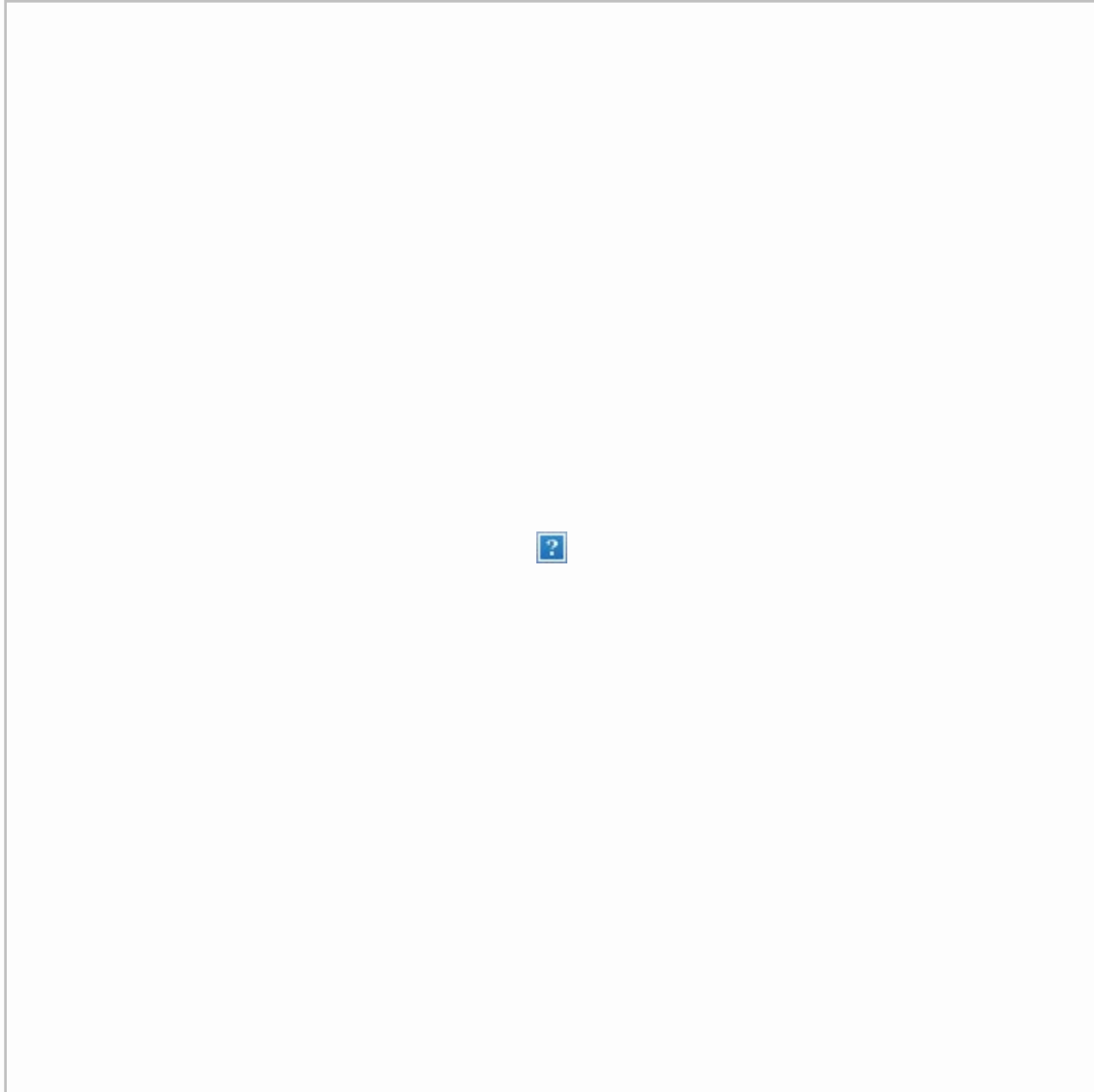


**From:** [Sal Rizza, Director of OTEE](#)  
**To:** [Rizza, Salvatore A.](#)  
**Subject:** Owl Family Update II Final Week!  
**Date:** Tuesday, December 10, 2024 5:23:57 PM

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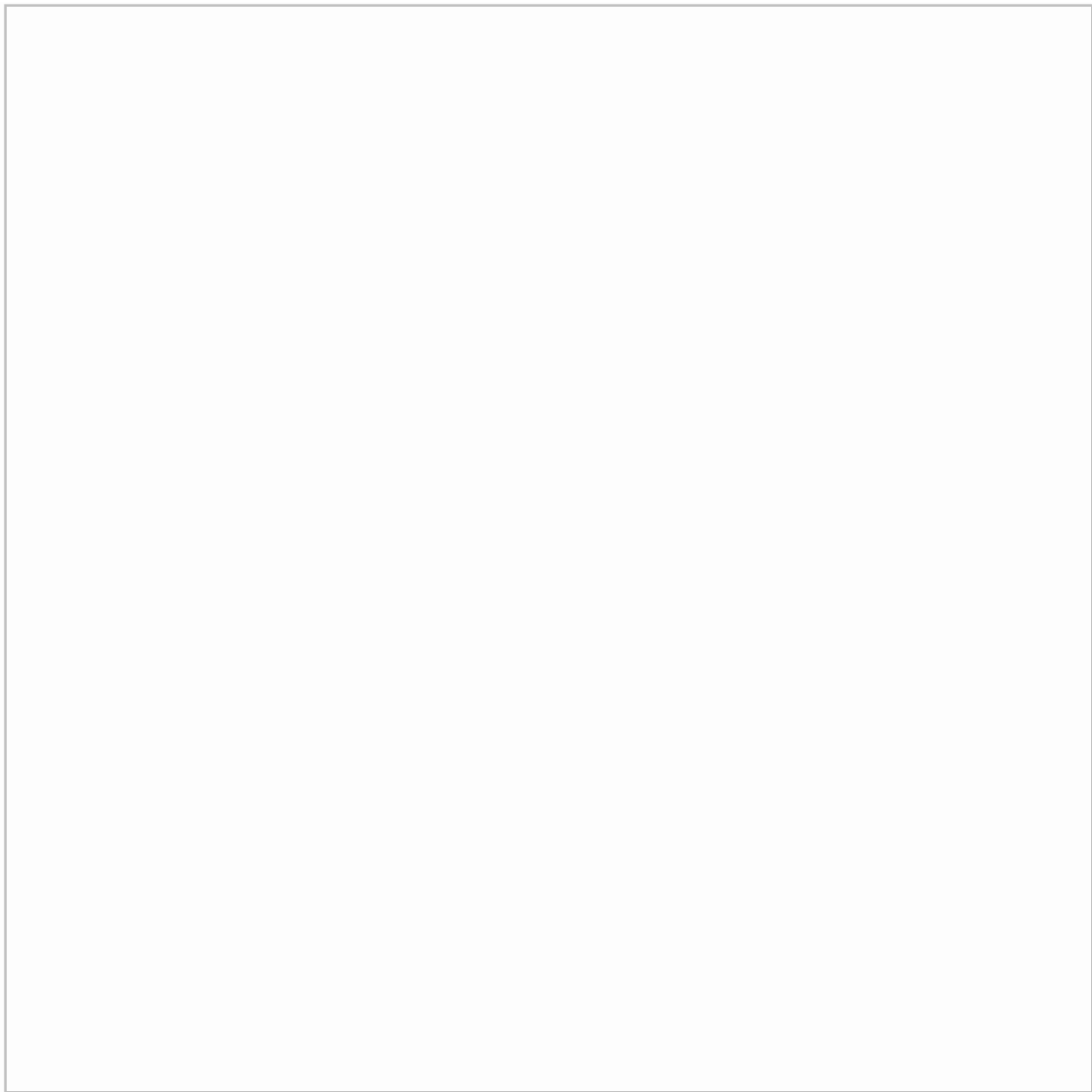
## Family Update: December 12

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**This email contains the following:**

Message from the Director of Orientation,  
Transition & Family Engagement

- Weekly Feature
    - Winter Session
  - News and Notes
    - Winter Closing for the Residence Halls
  - This Week at Southern
    - No events this week!
  - Resources
-



Dear Families,

**The final week of the semester is upon us!**

Over the past few months, students have enjoyed full orientation sessions, lively activities, and engaging classes. While many students are thriving, experiencing success and finding their place we know that others continue to struggle. Over the past few months, we've spoken to so many students and families. We've heard so many stories. While some may be tales of procrastination, laziness or negligence there are far more including the challenges of managing emotions in a new environment, lack of basic needs, or incredible self-doubt. As Fall 2024 final grades will be available on December 20th (via Bannerweb), it is important to help students process their semester as they complete their finals this week.

We would like to offer a few thoughts on how to frame this past semester:

- 1, Start with the positive. A great question to ask is, "What went best this semester?"
2. Celebrate! Be sure to acknowledge the small success as well as the major accomplishments. That may be a hard-earned "C" in a challenging subject, joining a club/organization or securing a fantastic internship.
3. Sometimes, best laid plans fail us and students may not have had the semester they would have liked. Asking a question such as, "what could have been done differently?" may prompt a fruitful conversation.
4. Move On and Plan Ahead- Considering what has been learned about successes and challenges, look at the next semester and prepare for a great Spring 2025.

Please know that if you or your students would like support in processing the semester or planning for next, our office would be happy to provide support.

Important Dates:

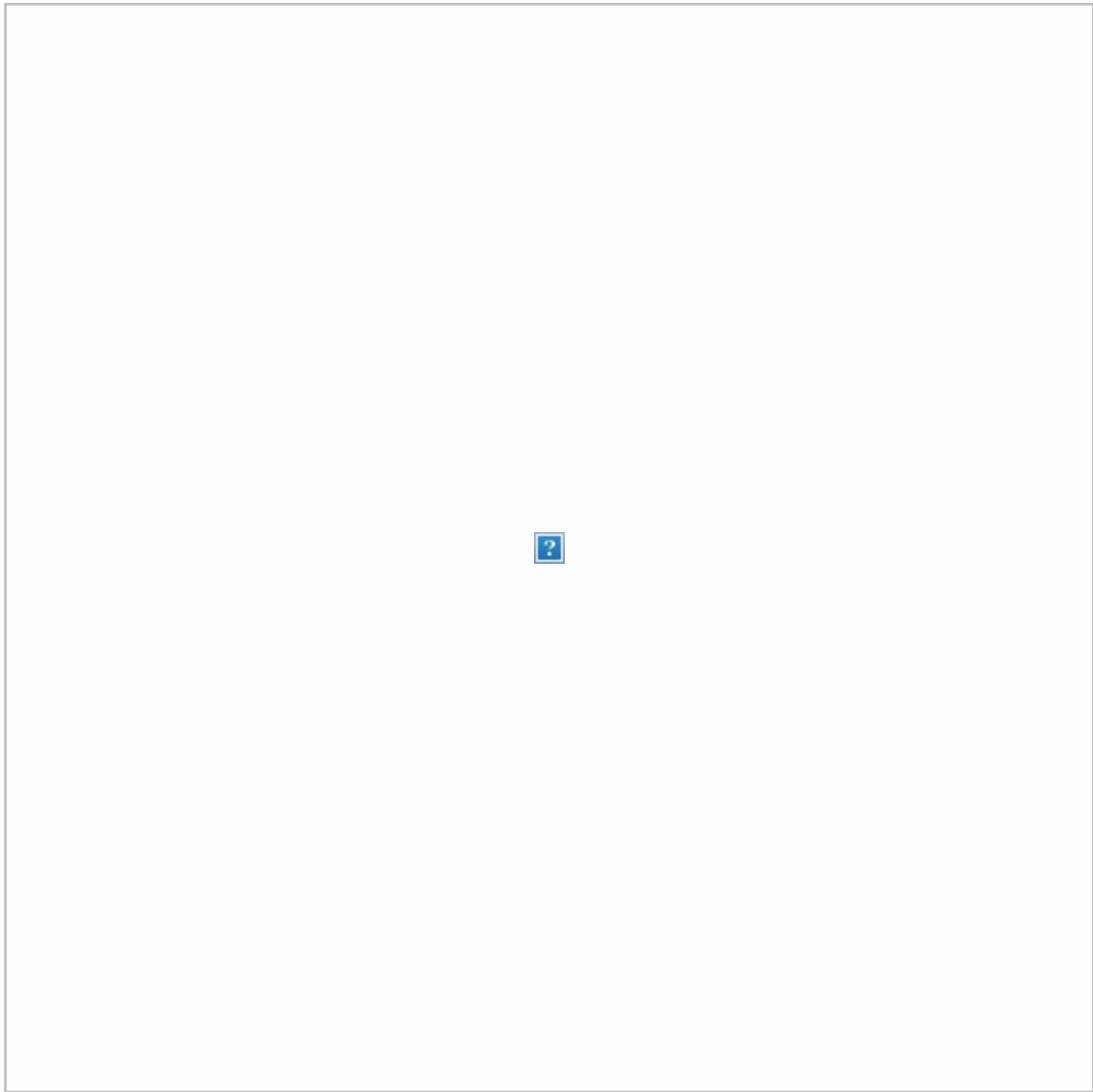
1. **Payment Deadline** for the Spring 2025 is December 15<sup>th</sup> (<https://inside.southernct.edu/onestop/bill-payment/bill-pay> ).
2. Students should have **registered for their Spring 2025** courses at this point in time.
3. **Final Grades** will be released by 5pm on December 20th.
- 4.

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



Check out Winter Session Offerings!





**The email below was sent to all residential students last week...**

Dear Students,

We hope you are doing well! With the end of the semester rapidly approaching, we wanted to provide you with some important information regarding the winter break closing. Please read the information below carefully and contact 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 Winter Break Housing Request Form is now live in your MyHousing.
- The deadline for requests to stay late and the winter break housing application is by noon on Wednesday, December 11<sup>th</sup>, 2024. (*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 Wednesday, December 4<sup>th</sup>, and remain in effect throughout the end of the semester.
- Overnight guests are not permitted starting on Wednesday, December 4<sup>th</sup> throughout the end of the semester.
- Move-in for Spring 2025 is scheduled for Tuesday, January 21<sup>st</sup>, 2025, 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 14<sup>th</sup>) 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 14<sup>th</sup>. The Winter Break Housing Application can be found in your MyHousing and closes at noon on Wednesday, December 11<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

### **Winter Break Housing:**

Any resident registered for spring 2025 classes and placed in housing for spring 2025 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 noon on Wednesday, December 11<sup>th</sup>. 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 Application".

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 the week of December 16<sup>th</sup>. More details to come via email closer to the date.*

**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. 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 that will be 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 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 **upgrade their meal plan** for the spring semester (if eligible based on your room assignment) starting at 10:00 AM on Monday, December 2<sup>nd</sup> until Friday, February 7<sup>th</sup>, 2025. **After February 7<sup>t</sup>, 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 2025 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 21<sup>st</sup>. 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.

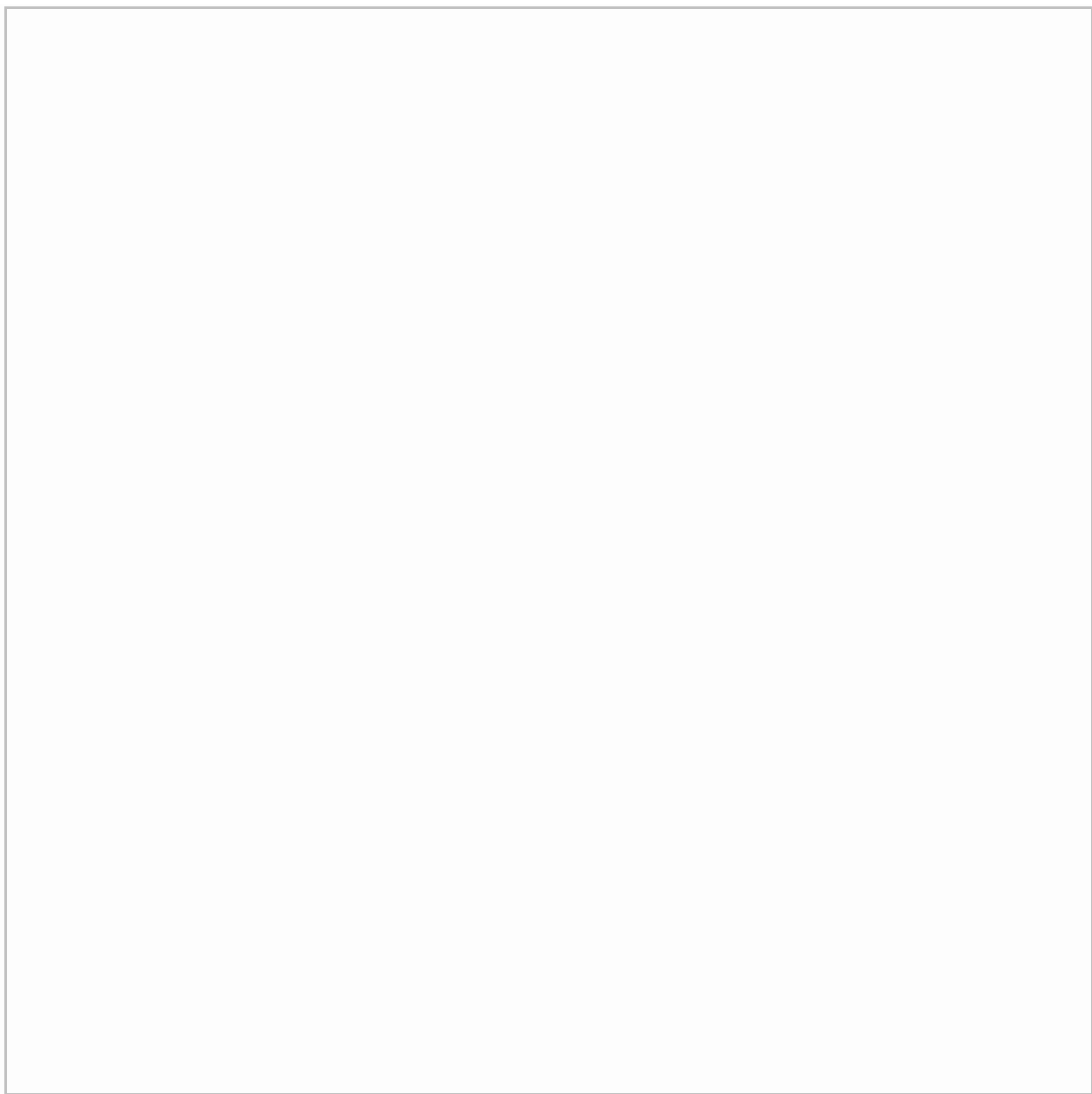
If you need to retrieve a package from the office during the break, you must email us at [reslife@southernct.edu](mailto:reslife@southernct.edu) in advance to set up a pickup time. Access will be limited.

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](mailto:reslife@southernct.edu). We are open Mondays through Fridays from 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM

We hope you all have a fun and safe Thanksgiving Break!

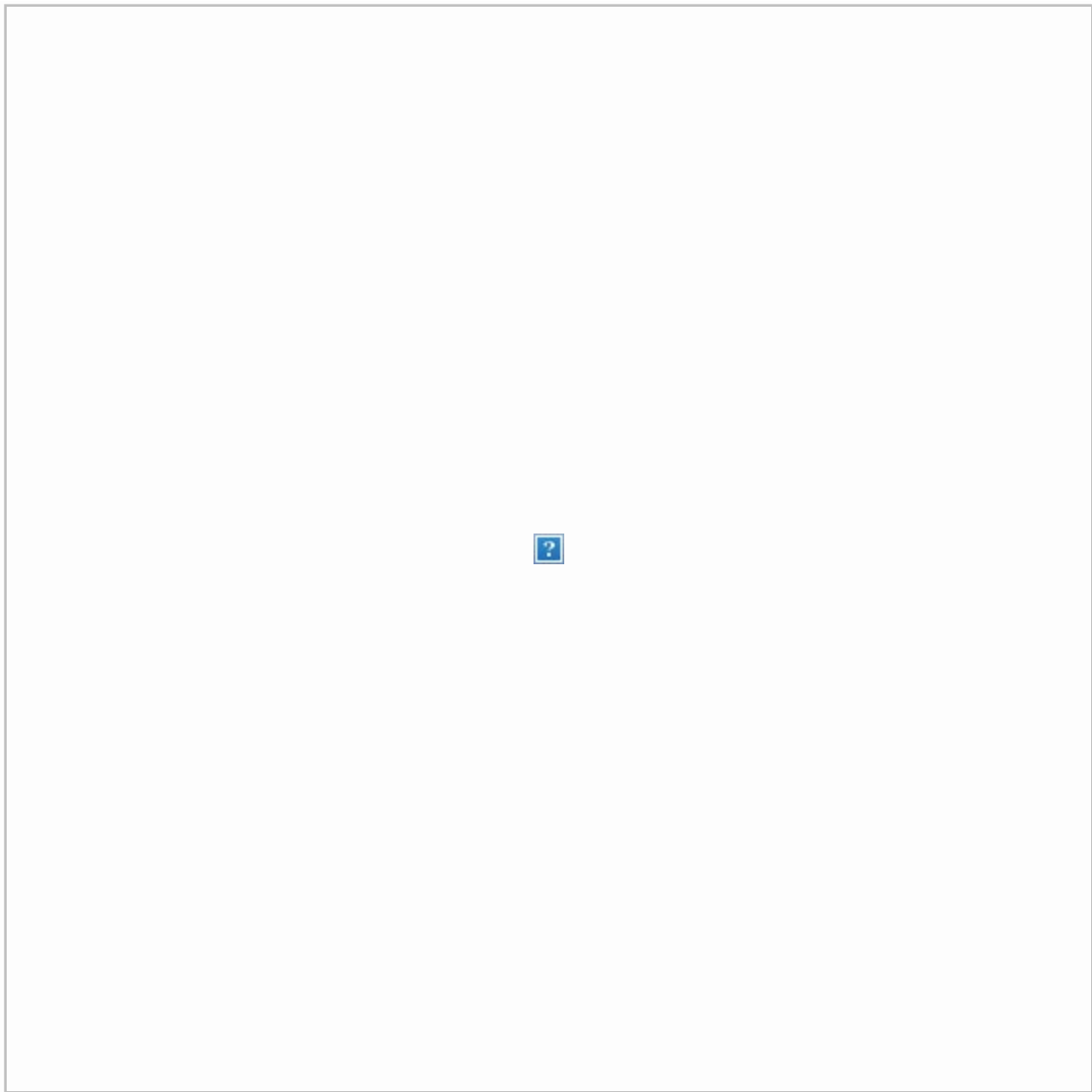
Sincerely,  
The Office of Residence Life

Sincerely,  
The Office of Residence Life



No events scheduled during finals week!



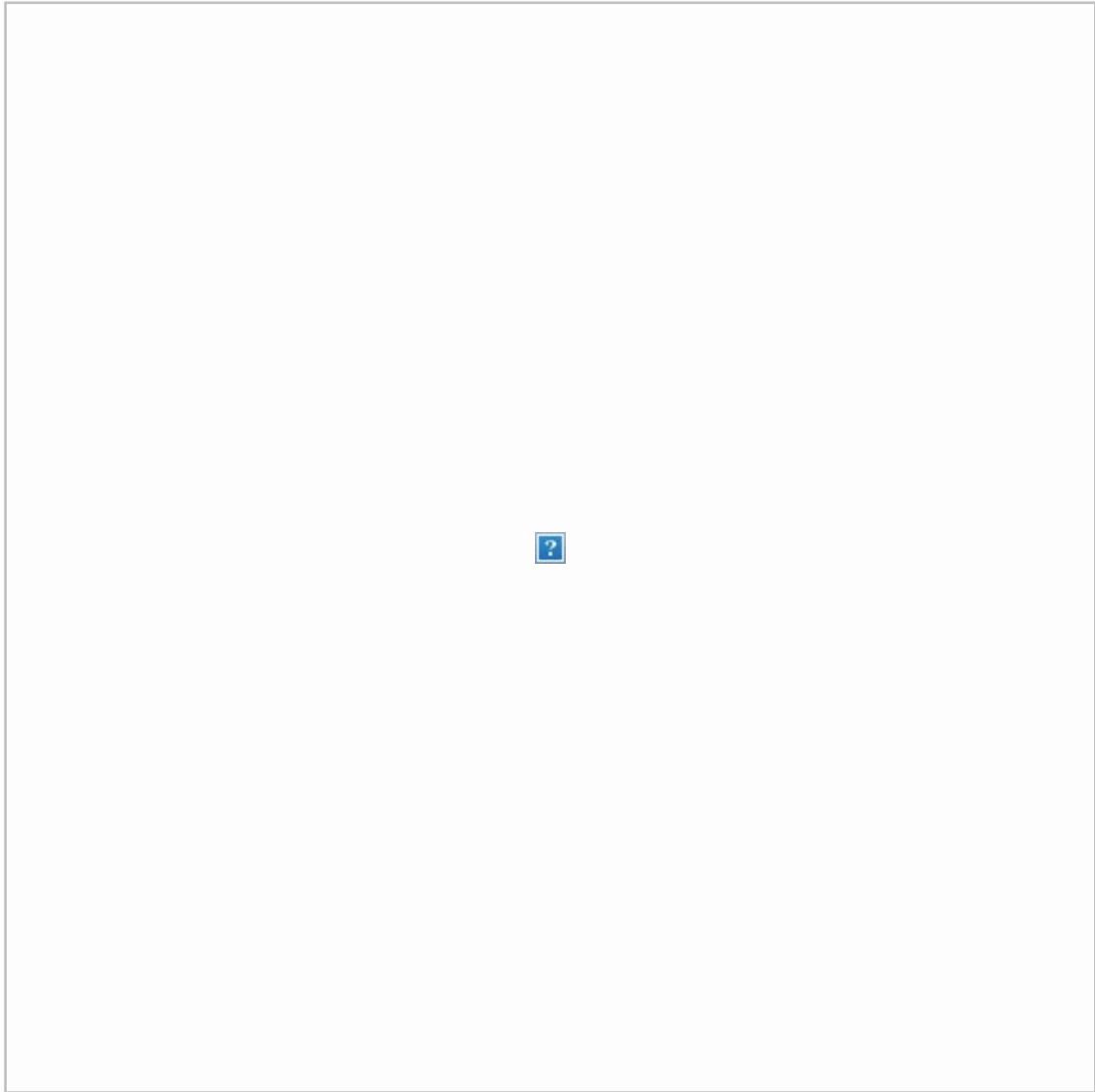


**Helpful Links-** these are a number of helpful links that we have gathered specifically for parents/families that will be helpful now and in the future.

**Resources-** these is another general page filled with links that may be helpful!

**Residence Life-** with so many questions regarding residence life, this may be a great place to find information!

**Advising-** information regarding academic advising.



orientation@southernct.edu  
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