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editor's note

More than one person has told me that I don't get enough sleep, regular meals or exercise, and that I'm too thin.

As if that's not enough, now the Academic Standards Committee tells me I have another inadequacy — academic deficiency. In other words, I was academically disqualified fall term. Flunked out, in the vernacular.

To my great disappointment, academic deficiency is not a problem that can be corrected by taking vitamins. Although it is an inadequacy that will keep you out of classes for awhile.

So while most of my senior classmates are looking for ways to get out of the University as quickly as possible, I'm looking for ways to get back in.

For the benefit of those who would like to know, "How can I get academically disqualified too?" I have compiled the following guidelines:

Reading is particularly ineffective with the book closed, especially while you are using it as a cocktail napkin at a local bar.

Sleeping is impossible with your eyes open. Being a prerequisite for staying awake while you're eyes are open, sleep should be taken periodically in small doses.

If you choose to postpone sleeping until after college,

remember that naps are not appropriate while driving an automobile. Although being asleep at the wheel may not be in violation of any statute in particular, it fails to serve as an alibi for running red lights or colliding head-on with other vehicles.

Somewhere in your demanding schedule, keep in mind that it is appropriate to shower and change your clothes at least once every two to three days. Not only does that ensure maintaining your health, it prevents those close to you from becoming nauseous.

Studies show that test taking is significantly aided by studying. Granted, the University of Oregon has a less grueling reputation for academics than Harvard, you should still reserve time at least on weekends for maintaining satisfactory academic progress.

Telling a professor for the third time in as many terms that your mother died and so you will need an extension on your research paper will not receive a warm reception, nor will it work. Take an incomplete instead.

Ignoring incompletes will not make them go away.

Trying to absorb nine weeks of reading in one weekend before a final examination is indeed ambitious, but as realistic as asking God to intervene on a parking ticket.

Taking courses in disciplines other than your major is a noble academic pursuit. However, taking chemistry for your own knowledge and edification when you've failed high school algebra is inglorious.

Attending weekend movies in lecture halls instead of classes is entertaining, but watching *The Black Stallion* will not substitute for a lecture in marine biology.

Classes are a more efficient learning tool when you attend the ones you have in fact registered for. A calendar, outlining class times and locations, is a helpful guide to attending classes on appropriate days, such as days on which exams are given.

If you have a part-time job, you should not work voluntarily at it full-time and especially not all-the-time. Working the graveyard shift while attending school is likely to put you in one.

Parents are more likely to give a student — who also happens to be their child — financial support when that student is enrolled at a fully accredited institution of higher learning. Neither the Excelsior Cafe nor the Eugene Business College fits that description.

Finally, although working 40 or more hours a week and attending school demonstrates great industry, it also is indicative of an even greater lack of marbles. The combination likely could cause a more disastrous effect than mixing Mexican food and beer, and both will probably lead to stomach trouble.

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