



Paige's Declassified School Survival Guide

by Paige Riding

With the end of my time at this college approaching, I was inspired by a certain nostalgic television show to provide new and returning students with the tricks and tools I gained with my three semesters here. I hope that this article will provide my fellow students with new ideas that maybe never crossed their minds as well as reminders for some school tips that may have been forgotten along the way. Full disclaimer: I by no means am the most successful student to have ever graced this campus. I did, however, manage to balance two jobs and a full course schedule with pretty damn good grades. If you wish to learn about some of my money saving ideas, as well as ways to make student life more fun and easy, keep reading my school survival guide below!

1. Go out and get help before you need it, not after.

College of New Caledonia strives to make life for students challenging yet rewarding. With these academic and personal hurdles, however, the school offers some help along the way. It is up to students to reach out for these life preservers rather than choosing to avoid them and start drowning. If

you have a problem with a subject, I guarantee someone else has had a similar problem before. You are not alone and should not try to face these challenges alone.

For academics, the Testing and Tutoring service located on the first floor of the campus helps with tough courses.

It helped me get an A in Geography 201 when I started the course not knowing that there were around ten different cloud types instead of just fluffy ones and stormy, scary ones. The service is free to all students. They offer help with English, sciences, and mathematics. If, like myself, you struggle with taking an exam with a room full of shuffling, gum-chewing students, there is also the option to ask your professor (at the start of the semester!) to take exams and midterms in a quieter room there.

This one may be obvious, but make your study time efficient. Cramming does little to nothing to help students prepare for exams. Leaving a chunk of time each night to study, perhaps leaving out Friday nights for some relaxing, will help you to prepare. Make studying fun –well, about as fun as it can be. Use bright page markers and highlighters from the dollar store to mark notes and textbooks. Take breaks. Your brain