Things Every College Student Should Do*
(An addendum to Things Every MSU Student Should Do)

☐ Learn RESPONSIBILITY before your sophomore year.
☐ Talk with your parents often, about anything. Frequent status updates put their mind at ease.
☐ Understand your health insurance coverage and how to access it while at school. You may get sick at some point, and you won’t feel like thinking about it then.
☐ Ask questions. There is no such thing as a dumb question.
☐ Get a class project done a week ahead of time.
☐ Prepare a good reason if you have to ask for an extension on an assignment. A heavy workload is not a good excuse.
☐ Spend a summer on campus. It’s a whole different world.
☐ Eat fruits and vegetables everyday.
☐ Write home.
☐ Go to three parties in a row without drinking alcohol. It can be done.
☐ Read a book written by one of your professors.
☐ Develop friendships with classmates outside of your normal circle of friends.
☐ Learn to live WITHIN your means.
☐ Become a volunteer for Habitat for Humanity, local hospitals and nursing homes, Big Brother/Big Sister programs, holiday projects or the Salvation Army.
☐ Ask a faculty member to lunch.
☐ Get a mentor and apply that person’s wisdom to your college life.
☐ Admit that you’re homesick.
☐ Learn the phone number for the counseling center—don’t be afraid to use it. At MSU it’s x5211.
☐ Become knowledgeable about your financial aid. Money, as it turns out, really doesn’t grow on trees.
☐ Read up on binge drinking and its negative—and sometimes deadly—effects.
☐ Study. It’ll get you closer to graduation.
☐ Play at least one sport or intramural activity that’s different from any you’ve played before. This is the time to try new things.
☐ Use the sidewalks instead of the grass. Put those tuition dollars to better use than reseeding the lawns.
☐ Challenge yourself. Try things that are different or that might be difficult.
☐ Take road trips. Many places are closer than they seem.
Say hello to everyone you pass.
Surf the Net often, but only after you finish the 25-page paper.
NEVER assume anything is ok or will work to your benefit.
Go to an event, concert, religious ceremony, or dance party where you will be in the minority.
Be nice to the department chair's secretary. This is the person who handles a lot of your paperwork.
Support your musician classmates by attending their performances.
SLEEP. It's good for you.
Create your own website.
Promise your closest friends you will get together regularly after graduation and make plans to do it.
See how long you can go without doing laundry—then do the entire load on Saturday. You have just created study time.
Promise to be a loyal and involved alumnus. Join the Alumni Association as soon as you graduate.
Put away childish things, but never let go of your childhood.
Never forget to study.
Stress is the enemy, so RELAX.
Meet your school dean.
Treat your parents to something at least once before graduation.
When you are frustrated go to the gym and workout.
Learn to live without MTV, soap operas, and anything else that distracts you from your studies.
Remember your sense of humor. With assignments piling up and deadlines fast approaching, sometimes a good laugh is your last & best defense.
Commit a random act of kindness.
Take some course outside your degree program.
Experience new relationships. Be open to friendships with everyone you meet, including those who are ethnically or culturally different from you.
View the university campus from afar, and then get in the middle of it and BE INVOLVED!!

*Adapted from Syracuse University Magazine.*