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Longwood University looks to uphold three aspects in their students: scholarship, community, and service. While fulfilling these pillars is no easy task, there are an abundance of resources that are available to us as students. At Longwood, there are a variety of convenient academic outlets that go beyond the conscientious professors, the small school community reassures me that a helping hand is never far away. As not only an honors student but a student athlete, I feel that I have a plethora of resources available to me such as advisors, the writing center, tutoring, office hours, and many more.

Recently, as I have been weighing my class options for next semester, I have been guided by my advisors. I met with Jessi, and she was very helpful in working with me to create a schedule that I could balance. She informed me about many options for study abroad programs if I choose to major in Biology. I could tell she was genuinely concerned about my success not only in the classroom but overall as a student in the Longwood community. I have noticed this same kindness and concern in everyone in the Honors College and in the professors, I have had this semester.

Additionally, since I have been transitioning to the college writing, I have found the Writing Center to be especially supportive for papers in my different classes. I originally came to the Writing Center because I was required to visit each week for ENGL 150, Honors Writing and Research class. However, these lessons turned into productive meetings, where I was able to enhance my writing and even work on writing assignments in other classes. Each time I would go to the Writing Center I would work with a tutor, we would work affectively to accomplish a goal each session. Whether it was revising my thesis, finding better resources, or coming up with an outline for a paper, the tutors at the Writing Center guided me through every step of the writing process.

Besides going to Writing Center and meeting with my advisors, I have found my weekly tutoring sessions to help me break down the material and ask any questions that I need further clarification on. Each week throughout the semester I have been meeting with another student-athlete, who is tutoring me in Biology. Every time we meet I go through the textbook chapter of the week and ask any lingering questions. For me sometimes it just takes a second explanation from someone who has gone through it to get a better idea of the concepts. I also find it beneficial to meet with her because, it forces me to go back over the information and review it. My tutor is always very flexible and willing to work with me, I know whether I have a test coming up, or I am struggling with some part of a lecture she will take me through it. Tutoring is a useful resource, and it has helped me to see improvements in class and my understanding of the topics.

Lastly, if I need an immediate answer or explanation, I try to go to that professor’s office hours. Especially, when I miss class because I am traveling, it is important for me to meet with the professor before I leave or immediately when I return to get caught up on my work and to know which deadlines I need to make up. In addition, I utilize office hours to review my test with my professors or work with them on a paper to refine it. Advisors, the Writing Center, tutoring, and office hours are just a hand full of the resources that are available to students at Longwood. These few outlets have helped me to see success in the classroom, while preparing myself for what lies ahead.