### Before You Arrive

- Explore the *Path to Princeton* site fully to get a sense of living and learning at Princeton
- Read the *Daily Prince* and other sources to find out what Princeton academics are really like
- Combi through *Course Offerings* and consider a balanced combination of classes, including seminars and lectures, and a range of topics and disciplines
- Consider applying for a *Freshman Seminar* on a topic that interests you, but which you might not otherwise explore
- Get a calendar you will really use—an electronic one like iCal or whatever works
- Look at the *Academic Calendar* to get a sense of the (rapid!) flow of the semester
- Don’t stress if you feel unprepared; we’ll help you figure things out when you get here

### In the First Few Weeks

- Attend the Academic Expo during Freshman Orientation
- Attend at least one academically-oriented workshop or activity (e.g., McGraw’s workshop on adjusting to Princeton)
- Go to departmental and certificate program open houses to get more specific information about courses and requirements
- Get input on your course schedule from your adviser and from an upper-division student—class selection is crucial
- Go to the Student Activities Fair, and select a small number (2-4) of extra curricular activities
- Use the *Interactive Campus Map* to find routes to your classes and other destinations
- Look ahead: once you get your syllabi, map out your due dates for all your classes
- Budget time for sleep, exercise, and social life; you’ll get more out of your transition if you do

### During Your First Semester

- Create a study group for one of your classes—they’re really efficient
- Schedule a *Learning Strategy Consultation* with a McGraw Consultant
- Visit the *Writing Center* for help with your first big paper
- Go to at least one of your professor’s office hours to talk about something you find interesting in the course
- Even when things are hectic, take time for recreation—this will actually make you a more successful student
- Find at least one mentor among faculty and staff, in addition to your adviser, to meet with regularly
- Attend at least one of *McGraw’s workshops* to prepare for your first midterms, finals, and everything in between
- Take 20 minutes a week to reflect on your academic approach and ways you might adjust it to meet Princeton’s demands
- Look around campus for additional resources, workshops, and activities to help make a smooth transition

*Consult the other Tip-Sheets in our virtual library for more good advice!*