

Commuter Connection

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A Guide To Winter Driving

Driving Safely On Icy Roads

- Decrease your speed and leave yourself plenty of room to stop. You should allow at least three times more space than usual between you and the car in front of you.
- Brake gently to avoid skidding. If your wheels start to lock up, ease off the brake.
- Turn on your lights to increase your visibility to other motorists.
- Keep your lights and windshield clean.
- Use low gears to keep traction, especially on hills.
- Don't use cruise control or overdrive on icy roads.
- Be especially careful on bridges, overpasses and infrequently traveled roads, which will freeze first. Even at temperatures above freezing, if the conditions are wet, you might encounter ice in shady areas or on exposed roadways like bridges.
- Don't pass snow plows and sanding trucks. The drivers have limited visibility, and you're likely to find the road in front of them worse than the road behind.
- Don't assume your vehicle can handle all conditions. Even four-wheel and front-wheel drive vehicles can encounter trouble on winter roads.

If your rear wheels skid...

- Take your foot off the accelerator.
- Steer in the direction you want the front wheels to go. If your rear wheels are sliding left, steer left. If they're sliding right, steer right.
- If you have standard brakes, pump them gently.
- If your rear wheels start sliding the other way as you recover, ease the steering wheel toward that side. You might have to steer left and right a few times to get your vehicle completely under control.

- If you have anti-lock brakes (ABS), do not pump the brakes. Apply steady pressure to the brakes. You will feel the brakes pulse -- this is normal

If your front wheels skid...

- Take your foot off the gas and shift to neutral, but don't try to steer immediately.
- As the wheels skid sideways, they will slow the vehicle and traction will return. As it does, steer in the direction you want to go. Then put the transmission in "drive" or release the clutch, and accelerate gently.

If you get stuck...

- Do not spin your wheels. This will only dig you in deeper.
- Turn your wheels from side to side a few times to push snow out of the way.
- Use a light touch on the gas, to ease your car out.
- Use a shovel to clear snow away from the wheels and the underside of the car.
- Pour sand, kitty litter, gravel or salt in the path of the wheels, to help get traction.
- Try rocking the vehicle. (Check your owner's manual first -- it can damage the transmission on some vehicles.) Shift from forward to reverse, and back again. Each time you're in gear, give a light touch on the gas until the vehicle gets going.

Winter Checklist

- Get a Tuneup
- Check Battery
- Check Coolant
- Fix Leaks
- Check Wipers
- Fill Your Tank
- Fill Washer Fluid
- Carry Sand Bags
- Install Block Heater
- Check Rear Defrost
- Know Your Car
- Get Snow Tires
- Have a Phone
- Clean off Your Car

Your Practical Guide to Final Exams

Tips for Multiple Choice Exams

- Read and answer the question before looking at the answer.
- Don't keep changing answers, usually your first choice is the right one.
- If you see at least two correct statements, then "all of the above" is probably the answer.
- A positive choice is more likely to be correct than a negative one.
- Usually the choice with the most information is the correct answer.
- Eliminate answers you know aren't correct.

Essay Exam Tips

- Read directions carefully. Answer the question you are supposed to answer.
 - If you don't understand what you are being asked, ask the professor for clarification.
- Write down everything asked of you and more. The more detail you include, the higher your grade will be.
 - Budget your time,
 - If asked for facts, don't give your opinion.
- Be as neat as possible. Neat paper=higher grade.
- If you aren't exactly sure about something, use approximations.

"The secret of teaching is to appear to have known all your life what you learned this afternoon."
- Anonymous

"The job of an educator is to teach students to see vitality in themselves."
-Anonymous

Finals Week Breakfast/Food Drive

Come into the lounge during finals week in the morning for doughnuts, muffins and juice to get your strength up for those tough exams! Bring a non-perishable food item (specifically spaghetti sauce, peanut butter, apple sauce, coffee, powdered milk) to donate to Christian Help and help out the less fortunate as your ticket to enter

breakfast! Founded in 1975, Christian Help, Inc., a United Way Agency, is dedicated to uplifting the less fortunate in north central West Virginia through social programming that includes free clothing, emergency financial assistance, emergency food orders, a furniture

exchange and advocacy as needed. Contact Tara with any questions in Purinton 103-B or by e-mail at Tara.Pletcher@mail.wvu.edu