

Complicated courses create frustration



Emily Hicks, biology junior, Mary Reilly, biology junior, and Alejandra Palacios, marine biology junior, study together. The three are also part of the softball team which makes it easier to get together outside of class. (Angel Vadillo/Collegian photographer)

By **Hanna House**
Staff reporter

Everyone has that one class that seems impossible to pass. Multiple students say the difficult course is Genetics.

“It is a lot of tiny details about genes and how they make up an individual and how they can be changed and affected,” said Jacqueline Erlanson, accounting sophomore.

One subject at the top of a couple people’s list is the dreaded math, more specifically, Intro to Probability and Statistics.

In this class the students learn about the chances of something happening, like the odds of winning the lottery.

“The math part isn’t the hard

part. You have to figure out the probability of something happening based on a word problem. That’s what can be misleading,” said Abby Warnke, business sophomore.

We all know that there are some classes where a student can pass if they just show up. Then there are classes like Genetics and Intro to Probability and Statistics where there are numerous tests and require a lot of time spent working on the material.

To get an undergraduate degree from Southwestern, one has to complete roughly 124 credit hours.

Odds are some of those credit hours are going to come from classes that you have to do strenuous work to pass with

a good grade.

Current freshman and sophomores have had to take the Prep 100 class to help them adjust to college life.

Students are frequently overwhelmed with all the assignments, readings, quizzes, papers and tests.

Stay focused on what this hard work is going to bring you to: graduation and the next stage in life.

Work hard, but remember, free time is also good for students. Too much stress can have a negative impact on grades and overall classroom performance.

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Helpful work habits

- Find what works best for you. Music/no music, whatever helps get the work done.
- Discover a quiet work area.
- Turn off the T.V. The more distractions, the longer it takes.
- Get a study partner to help you stay focused.
- Do the work in timed increments. Try doing half an hour of work then take a ten minute break.
- Schedule time efficiently. Write out all upcoming activities and plan for homework time around them.
- Write out all assignments at the beginning of the semester and put it somewhere that will be noticed frequently.

Source: Prep 100

Small colleges provide tight-knit communities

By **Kylie Stamper**
Staff reporter

One thing that Southwestern strives to provide everyday across campus is the small town, family-like atmosphere. They use that trait to draw in prospective students, to make students feel welcome, and to create a memorable experience during their college years.

Greg Reffner, religion & philosophy freshman, transferred from Wichita State University this semester. Reffner said, “I feel like I’m having a good experience so far because at a small college, it’s all about what you put into it is

what you get out of it. I’m getting more out of it here than I did at Wichita State because I’m putting more into it. I feel like it’s good for me.”

Jessica Arnoldy, biology sophomore, came from a small town and says a lot of the same feelings of community and friendships occur at Southwestern. “I am from a small high school, so I’m used to the one-on-one with professors. Being able to come here and still have that one-on-one where they know me and see me on campus and they say hi, that’s really good for me because it kept me in my comfort zone while I was transi-

tioning,” Arnoldy said.

Every college, no matter big or small, will have several similar pros or cons but one characteristic that sticks out at Southwestern is the strong sense of community across campus. Reffner said, “I like the strong sense of community here. I was plugged into a Greek community at Wichita State. I had the added benefit of that but you pull that aside and you’re walking across campus and there’s just people walking around campus, there’s no community, there’s nothing there.”

Among every other pro or con, one that sticks out the most is the

friendships and relationships that develop at Southwestern. “I have made more meaningful relationships in my two and a half weeks here than I did all last semester,” said Reffner.

With opinions from several contributors including popular websites and students, these were the most common pros and cons of attending a small college.

Pros:

- Strong sense of community
- People, friends, and relationships
- Smaller class size
- Better food selection, shorter lines in the cafeteria

Easier to get involved in school activities

Cons:

- Usually a higher price
 - Everybody knows everybody—word travels fast
 - Not as many classes or choices—classes not offered every semester
 - Less job opportunities on campus (or in a small town)
 - Not as many things to do (you might end up knitting on the weekends)
- Kylie Stamper is a freshman majoring in communication. You can email her at kylie.stamper@sckans.edu.*