

Nathan Grace

01/10/2022-04/28/2022

I have decided to donate the entire journal that I have kept over the past semester to the Northern Arizona University Archives. I would like to donate it to show that in the later month of the COVID-19, I want to show that towards the end everyone has mostly given up on trying socially distance and people stopped caring. We just wanted to be students again and you will see that I had hardly mentioned little to nothing in some entries about COVID-19. This journal talks about the struggles that I had gone through over the semester and the ups and downs that I have seen.

01/10/2022

After my first class of the new semester I realized that it is going to be a rough four months. I will have to juggle school, work, and personal life. The terrible thing is I can't let these issues fall to the ground. If i let my personal life drop i will become depressed and alone, but i will have more time for school and work. If I let work drop I will not be able to afford the life that I have created, let alone school. If I let school drop I would have wasted everything that I have worked for and wasted countless hours and sacrifices for nothing. But getting back to the point if I want to successfully succeed this semester I am going to have to go through hardships. But I know that I can get through this.

Nathan Grace

01/17/22

I had one of the roughest weeks of college last week. I was told by an advisor last monday that I need to enroll in a class that I overlooked when signing up for the year. The class requires me to sit in a high school and middle school class room this semester as a part of the requirements of my major of secondary education and history. But I have always been the student who gets decent grades and has to work for it. I could never get the A in a class I invested all of time into and let the world pass me by. But heading back to my class I just had to enroll in so I have to pass the class with a B or higher and that scares me the most. I am afraid that if I don't pass this class I will graduate late and that will hurt the most.

01/24/22

It is the third week of school and I am starting to become stressed out. At the moment I am enrolled in 17 credits and last semester I was enrolled in 12. The 17 credits are starting to take a real toll on my work and social life. I have to give up plans with my friends and family just to make sure my homework is complete. In high school whenever my teacher said college is different from high school I didn't believe them until now. Trying to meet deadlines and give quality while working and trying not to become a shell of the man I aspire to be is tough. Sometimes I contemplate dropping out of college but I will have thrown away tens of thousands of dollars and disappoint my family and friends who have invested in me. Like I said in the beginning it's only the third week, I wonder how the next 13 weeks will go.

01/31/22

It is the fourth week of the semester and close to the month of february. I am starting to get in the groove of school and was in the high school classroom on friday for my practicum. This made me super nervous and excited about my journey and path that I am headed on. When I went to work this past Wednesday one of my coworkers who is a night guy is going through a rough patch at the moment so I have to stay late now every day to make sure the job gets completed. This is not worth the amount of money that I am getting paid, due to the fact that I have to sleep late and have to wake up early for class. My brother also works with me and he is using my relationship to get out of work and he is not treating me like a coworker. This has become super annoying due to the fact that he feels like he is using me, he parks his truck at my apartment, sends his mail to my apartment, and expects me to bring all of that over to him. What is worse is he didnt get an apartment on campus because he filled out the form late, he then called and asked me if i would kick out my roommate so he could stay their next semester, he said "if you were a good brother you would do this for me" i don't know what to do.

02/07/2022

This is the fifth week of school. I am excited for the week to be over. On Friday I will be traveling back home to see the superbowl. I have always watched the superbowl with my family for as long as i can remember except for one time and that one time was miserable for me. This semester has been one of the rockiest and relaxing at the same time. One day I can relax without doing homework, the next I'll have four assignments due. In all, I can't wait for the semester to be over and for summer to arrive and take a break.

02/14/2022

This is the sixth week of school and I am getting excited for the semester to end. I traveled back from the valley yesterday watching the superbowl with my family and I was happy to see all of them. I greatly enjoyed it and I can't wait to see them all again for spring break, especially on Saint Patrick's Day since my grandmother is Irish and she makes the best corn beef roast. Outside all of that school is rough and I am struggling to get through all of it and I'm trying to survive.

02/21/2022

My girlfriend decided to come up on friday and surprise me and i am super thankful that she did, many don't know but i am always homesick. When she surprised me it made me very happy. One thing that I did notice while I have been writing this is there hasn't been much about covid with school. We are writing these about the times of covid yet this is seventh week of school and i hardly know anyone that has gotten covid.

02/28/2022

It feels like I am drowning with school work and the only thing that will make me survive is doing the school work. I enjoyed having to shovel snow last week since it made it nice and easy to go to sleep faster. I have a hard time falling asleep after doing nothing all day but working six straight hours shoveling snow. I practically passed out on the way home. The funny thing when I was shoveling snow is we are allowed to drive our work trucks anywhere on campus, the issue

though I got stuck in the middle of the north quad in the grass. We had got one of our snow plows to get us out and then he got stuck. We spent 2 hours digging out his truck then my truck.

03/07/2022

This is the ninth week of school and I am getting really excited for spring break. This semester has been hard so far yet I know we are over half way through and that puts a smile on my face. Work has been hard as we are losing coworkers and I am having to do things that I have never done before. This sucks a lot because I am severely underpaid and I have been fighting for a pay raise yet I can't get one. The issue is other student workers are fighting to get 15 an hour yet I deserve more than that so they won't give me until they have an understanding if people will get a pay raise.

03/21/2022

Today I was offered a job by NAU to go on calls for a week every four weeks starting next semester. My plan is to take the job due to the fact that they will let me live on campus for free and that is a deal that I don't think I can pass up. When I presented my interest in taking the job the administration expressed their concern that I wasn't going to be living on campus next year before this came up, instead they are talking about giving a housing stimulus which would be better than living on campus. But the issue is I don't want to tell my landlord that I won't be living there next year and the deal with NAU falls through. I also don't want to tell her that I will live there and NAU expects me to live on campus. I need NAU to make a decision which is hard for them since they are slow about everything.

03/28/2022

I was just notified last Thursday that my boss was leaving on the first as he and his wife were leaving Arizona and going to Massachusetts to get a fresh start. I am a little hurt but I realize that this is something that he wants to do but what sucks is I have to start fresh with a new boss and be able to get him on my side so I can do what I want and get away with it. At this point in school I am struggling to survive but I know the semester is near and I can see I just have a bunch of hurdles.

04/04/2022

At the end of this week I get to see my older brothers, my cousin, my parents, and my girlfriend. My family and I are going to a music festival called country thunder. It is a four day event that ends on Sunday April tenth which happens to be my 21st birthday. I am excited for this as I can finally feed my vices on my own and not need my friends to help me out. I have two projects due at the end of this week so we will try to figure how we are going to get this done.

04/11/2022

Yesterday was my birthday. I didn't really celebrate it as I had to drive back from the valley. But in the past week I had a good time and celebrated my birthday on Saturday the 9th. It was hard to say goodbye, especially to all of my family, but what was harder was realizing how much more school I had left. I thought I had two weeks little did I know I have almost four weeks left,

but the best way to think about it is I have three weekends left. I am done with school and I am tired of being so stressed out and tired all of the time.

04/18/2022

This is the last full regular week of school and I am ready to finish it. I am done with school. I am sick with it and I only have three semesters left after this semester. What has really been kicking my ass has been school. I really regret taking 17 credits but I have learned to live with the consequences I make. I made the bed and now i have to sleep in it, i have always been stressed out cant take it anymore. I want May 6th to show up as soon as possible.

04/25/2022

I was just told today that i have not been accepted into the job that i applied for around a month ago, wasn't anything to do with my work talent but more or less B. S. answers. They told me since I didn't apply for housing next year that they will not kick out a paying customer to put someone up for rent free, also they told me that they won't pay me any more anyways. I really hate working for NAU, sometimes not the people I work with or my direct supervisor, but the higher ups that decide shitty things and think that they are going to work brilliantly yet little do they know it always fails and the people resent them more and more. If you ever decide to work for NAU be careful they don't care about you.