



[Mainpage](#)

[Senior Class Campaign](#)

[Your Alumni Class Officers](#)

[Before You Graduate...](#)

[Events](#)

[Photo Album](#)

[Links](#)

[main](#) | [career checklist](#) | [top 100 things to do](#)

## 100 Things To Do Before You Graduate!

*You are not here to be made;  
you are here to make yourselves.  
You are not here to hang upon a university;  
you are here to help build a university.  
--Andrew Dickson White*

100. Visit the Plantations.
99. Visit the top of the Clock Tower.
98. Visit the Green Dragon in Sibley.
97. Go to the Farmers Market.
96. Visit the top of the Johnson Museum of Art.
95. Go to a Zinck's Night.
94. Go swimming at the base of Buttermilk Falls.
93. Learn the first two verses of the "Alma Mater" (here they are):

Verse 1:

Far above Cayuga's waters  
With its waves of blue  
Stands our noble alma mater  
Glorious to view.

Chorus:

Lift the chorus, speed it  
onward

Loud her praises tell.  
Hail to thee, our alma mater  
Hail, all hail, Cornell.

Verse 2:

Far above the busy humming  
Of the bustling town,  
Reared against the arch of  
heaven  
Looks she proudly down.

92. Visit the moving stacks in lower Olin Library.

91. Walk between the Arts Quad statues at midnight.

90. Donate to the Senior Gift Campaign and pay your class dues.

89. Learn the words to "Give My Regards to Davy."

88. Bring a date on a picnic at Sunset Park (off Cayuga Heights Road).

87. Scream at midnight before finals start.

86. Call your parents and tell them you love them.

85. Get in a shouting match with the people behind the counter at the Bursar's Office.

84. Try to hitchhike home for a weekend. Get picked up by a scary guy. Take the bus home from Binghamton.

83. Read the following books while you are still in school: Been Down So Long it Looks Like Up to Me; A Farewell to Arms; The Elements of Style; On the Road; Zen and the Art of Motorcycle Maintenance.

82. Have a 2 a.m. breakfast at the State Diner. Acquire a taste for french fries and gravy.

81. Get at least one F; nothing prepares you for success quite like a failure.


80. Ace at least one class. Nothing prepares you for success like success.

79. Kiss someone on the Suspension Bridge.
78. Buy a Cornell-raised apple from a vending machine.
77. Get to know a professor so well he/she invites you to dinner; discover that professors have families.
76. Skip class to play on the Arts Quad.
75. Visit your freshman year dorm.
74. Tray down Libe Slope.
73. Skinny dip in the gorge at night.
72. Have a Ivy Room cookie during a study break.
71. Go to a Cornell hockey game.
70. Walk around Beebe Lake.
69. Cross-country ski at the Plantations.
68. Bowl at Helen Newman Lanes.
67. Stand in line for 45 minutes on a Saturday night at the Nines; eat a whole deepdish pizza yourself.
66. Fall asleep in the library; panic that someone saw you with your mouth agape.
65. Sell your text books at the end of the semester; blow all the money on a Frosty at Wendy's.
64. Write an indignant letter to the editor of the Sun.
63. Eat at every one of Cornell's dining halls at least once.
62. Have an epiphany in the stacks of Olin Library on a beautiful spring afternoon that grades are not the most important thing in the world; leave the library and take a walk.
61. Fall helplessly in love, get dumped, be shell-shocked, recover.
60. Get on a first name basis with Bob Petrillose.

59. Have Sunday brunch at the Statler; put it on Cornell Card.
58. Have the courage of your convictions to tell a professor what you really think about his or her class.
57. Get a mantra.
56. Prepare to pull an all-nighter by drinking three Mountain Dews and two cups of coffee and eating a handful of No-Doz; accomplish nothing due to an inability to sit still.
55. Ask for an extension on a term paper. Be asked why. Learn that workload is no good answer.
54. Go out to lunch with your freshman year roommate.
53. Drive out to the observatory on Mt. Pleasant; bug the graduate students until they let you look at the stars and planets through the telescope.
52. Let a harried mother go ahead of your in line at Wegmans or Tops; show the locals that not all students are rude and self-absorbed.
51. Break away from the normal going out routine; go to a downtown bar.
50. Visit the local wineries; learn to spit.
49. Carve your initials into a table at the Chapter House.
48. Camp out on the Arts Quad.
47. Have a buttered, toasted Long Island bagel at Collegetown Bagels after last call.
46. Flirt with someone "anonymously"; via the Sun personals.
45. Pedal a bicycle around Cayuga Lake.
44. Road trip!
43. Go to Spring Fever. Hum along with the singers.
42. Go South for Spring Break. Call home for more money.

41. Go on a campus tour. Ask the guide for a tour of the Medical College.
40. Have breakfast with President Rawlings. Ask him if he's going to finish his muffin.
39. Go to a Cornell Theatre production. And while you're at it, check out the theater scene in downtown Ithaca.
38. Be the subject of a psychology experiment in a windowless room in Uris Hall.
37. Chalk messages on the sidewalk.
36. Get your parents Cornell sweatshirts.
35. Go to a TCAB.
34. Have an ice cream cone at the Dairy Bar.
33. Drive up to the very top of Buffalo Street in a standard transmission car; learn how not to roll backward at the yield sign at the top.
32. Have your picture taken in A.D. White's lap.
31. Watch the sunset from the top of Libe Slope. (Do this as often as possible.)
30. Go to the ROTC museum in Barton Hall.
29. Sit quietly and alone in Sage Chapel. Admire the stained glass windows.
28. Tell yourself how brilliant you are.
27. Tell yourself how stupid you are.
26. At 6:30 p.m. in a crowded dining hall, stand up and sing your high school's fight song. (Everyone will think you're doing an experiment for a psychology class.)
25. Be able to explain the Theory of Relativity to the man on the street.

24. Commit to memory at least one of Shakespeare's soliloquies.
23. See the following films at Cornell Cinema: Stop Making Sense (midnight show only), Citizen Kane, 8 ½, The 400 Blows, Casablanca, It's a Wonderful Life (make fun of the people who cry), Diner, Apocalypse Now, The Graduate, Harold and Maude.
22. Go to the Synchrotron and ask for a tour.
21. Take friends who visit from other schools to Uris Hall to see the Cornell Brain Collection; tell them the legend of Mr. Rulloff. Then go to Rulloff's in Collegetown for dinner.
20. See Bound for Glory at the Commons Coffeehouse in Anabel Taylor Hall.
19. Start saving for retirement.
18. Go strolling through Forest Home.
17. Decide absolutely your mission in life. Change it five times.
16. Take a Graduate Entrance Exam in a subject you have barely studied. Inflate the results to your friends.
15. Say thank you to your favorite professor.
14. Learn to play guitar.
13. Write three papers in the same night.
12. Keep a diary.
11. Write a song.
10. Go to a Trustee meeting. They're open to the public.
9. Take a course way outside your major.
8. Stay up all night arguing about the existence of God.
7. Attend a lunchtime political rally outside the Straight; get into a heated debate with supporters or detractors of the groups the rally is for; miss class because of it.
6. Go to one last fraternity party.



5. Play one memorable practical joke on a dean.

4. Invent something.

3. Find a job or a graduate school.

2. Attend all the Senior Week events!

1. Attend all the Commencement Weekend events!

An adaptation of the March 1995 Cornell Magazine article "The 161 Things Every Cornell Student Should Do."