

A tough first semester doesn't define you — how you respond to it does. Reflect on what you could've done better, then execute

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## THREE TIPS FOR SECOND SEMESTER 1L STUDENTS

**Keep being persistent** — even after a tough first semester

First semester exams are hard. You've never completed a law school exam before — but in some schools — you're required to complete six in a row over a two-week period! It's possible you didn't do as well as you'd hoped. That's OK. There's still plenty of time to recover and learn from your mistakes. That's what second



semester is for. People always like a great comeback story, and you've got it in you!

### **Review what worked – and what didn't**

If there's one mistake I made in my first semester, it was not putting enough time into making helpful course frameworks earlier on. Like everything, course frameworks require refinements over time, not to mention stress-testing via practice exams. By working on my frameworks farther in advance, I was able to feel more confident in my material on exam day. The lesson? Reflect on what you could've done better, then execute.

### **Focus on grades -- but be open to new opportunities**

Yes, grades are important (and of course, Lexis+ is there to help you with all your research needs!). But if you can spare the extra time, be open to challenging yourself outside of regular coursework. While my second semester was fairly busy, I took the time to participate in two mini moots my school offered. This opened up opportunities in my 2L year and didn't negatively impact my grades. So if you feel like you can manage your time effectively, it's often wise to be open to new opportunities (even if it seems like extra work). You never know where they'll lead you!

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