How is it that Thanksgiving break is only a few days away? Time is flying! There's always a lot going on in November and a lot of things to plan for. This week I'm thinking about traveling home for the holiday, putting together a Friendsgiving here at school and, of course, choosing classes for next semester.

Course selection is in full swing now. As a senior, that means I've enrolled in classes for the last time at UMass! As I put together my schedule for next spring, I thought about Marie's advice for choosing courses. How do I want to spend my last semester in college? I'm grateful to have the flexibility in my schedule to take some classes that really interest me next semester, like a French class about the history of Paris, and an Honors seminar called "Exploring Chinese Culture Through Tea." There's just SO MUCH offered here. It can be really interesting to look at classes outside of your major and department!

My friends and I are also trying to put together one last Friendsgiving at UMass. This year's exciting because we all live off-campus and with kitchens, which means lots of homemade food. I'm torn between making this cheesy pumpkin side dish (a favorite in my family!) and a cranberry pecan pie. But even if you don't have access to an oven, there are still options! When we lived on campus, my friends and I had Friendsgiving with whatever we could put together in our dorms — microwaved sweet potatoes, cheese and crackers, and cookie dough. I don't think anyone minded!

On Saturday, I'm heading home for real Thanksgiving, and I can't wait. A whole week off! I'm looking forward to seeing my family, making Thanksgiving dinner with my mom, and having a few days off to catch up on work (and, let's be honest, Netflix.)

Happy Thanksgiving!

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