

Top 12 Ways to be Successful in College

1. Read your syllabus. This is your contract with the instructor.
2. Participate actively in class discussions and lectures. Ask critical and relevant questions. Many instructors give credit based on participation.
3. Do not talk in class when it is inappropriate. Do not whisper or pass notes to your neighbor or gather your books before class is over. It can be distracting and disrespectful to your instructor and classmates.
4. Attend class on a regular basis, this includes, arriving to class on time, and not leaving early or during a break.
5. Your grade is based on points or percentages; just being in class does not earn your grade. In order to earn points it is necessary to do the assigned work.
6. Turn in your work on time. Many instructors do not accept late work (even under extreme circumstances), so be prepared.
7. Be prepared for different instructional styles. Not all instructors teach alike. If you are having trouble understanding the material, talk to your instructor during office hours.
8. Focus on your class activities. Do not read a book or do other work during class time.
9. Take notes during class lectures, videos, and discussions. Unless otherwise stated by your instructor, he/she will be testing you on all materials presented.
10. Be aware of add/drop dates. (Check with your funding agency or any possible penalties.)
11. For every hour spent in class, two to three hours should be spent outside of class studying.
12. Respect the diversity of the instructors, staff and your fellow classmates.