

Tips for Success

- **Be responsible and proactive!** College is very different from high school, you are expected to keep on top of assignments, due dates, quiz and test dates and course material.
- **Studying outside of class is essential!** You will likely not understand all of the course material from sitting in class. You will need to spend time studying the material on your own (reading, solving problems etc.). For every hour you spend in class, it is expected that you spend two hours outside of class studying.
- **Stay organized!** Have a separate binder/notebook for your college class, keep a calendar of assignment due dates, quiz and exam dates. You likely will not be reminded as frequently, or at all, of due dates like you are in a high school class.
- **Take good notes!** Good notes from lecture, and readings are essential to success in college. Invest time in taking clean, readable notes—oftentimes when seeking help a professor will direct you to places in your notes from lecture where relevant information was discussed. Good notes indicate a true desire to learn and do well in the class, a professor will be encouraged by good notes and more inclined to help.
- **Don't procrastinate!** Long term project or paper due? Test to study for? Do not wait until the night before. Start work on assignments early and study for tests as you are learning the material.
- **Form study groups!** In college your classmates are valuable sources for help and collaboration. Work with each other, help one another throughout the class.
- **Seek help from resources on campus!** There are tutoring centers, writing centers, academic counseling etc. available to you at college. Take advantage of these resources—you are not alone, but you need to take the first step!
- **Seek help from the professor!** If you are struggling with a concept, or stuck on an assignment, reach out to your professor for help and guidance. Seeking help early, as soon as you are struggling, is important, do not wait until the last minute to get help, oftentimes it will be too late.
- **The class syllabus is your friend!** In college, the class syllabus, usually handed out on the first day of class, is your lifeline for the class. It should have due dates, assignments, contact information, class policies etc. Always have it handy, and refer to it first when you have questions about the class.
- **Attend class!** Attendance in class is essential to success in college. Plan on attending every class. If you cannot make a class, be sure to email your professor and let them know why, better yet, let them know ahead of time. Be aware of course make-up policies; oftentimes an unexcused absent means you cannot make up any material (quiz and tests included) missed that day.