

Tips for Academic Success

Go To Class!

While some professors include attendance in their grading, the majority of professors do not. However, that does not mean students should not go to class. Going to class provides an understanding of the professor's expectations and allows one to study accordingly.

"I can just get the notes or watch it on MediaVision."

Some students convince themselves they don't have to go to class and can just read the textbook. Other students rely on watching the class on Media Vision. It is important to note that the textbook material is sometimes more information than can be covered in one semester. Lecture is often based on what the professor feels is most important and can be very different from what is covered in the textbook. Lecture material is often what will be on the test.

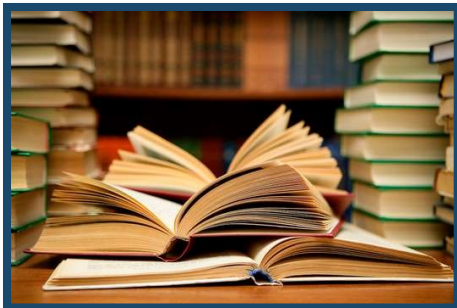
"I need to study for a really important exam in another class."

Some students skip class to study for another class. A pattern of continuously missing classes sets them back on important information and concepts for the classes they skipped. This behavior will likely catch up with students setting them behind in all their classes.

"I won't miss anything."

Hearing and seeing the information will help when reviewing and reinforcing the material later. The more times one reviews and repeats material the more likely they are to memorize it and be able to retrieve it at a later date (See: *Tips for Academic Success: The Forgetting Curve*). Attending class also gives the student an opportunity to interact with the professor while paying attention to both verbal and non-verbal clues, which offer insight into what the professor feels is most important.

Get More Out of Class



- 1) Do the required reading before class. Most likely some of the lecture will be based on the readings. If you didn't have time to complete the reading, review the introductory and conclusion paragraphs to give you a context for the lecture material.
- 2) Sit near the front of class. You will be less distracted by other students and better able to hear the professor.
- 3) Listen to what the professor is focusing on and any verbal or non-verbal clues stating what the most important information is. Make sure to highlight these in your notes for exam reviews.
- 4) Ask questions. This not only clarifies. Information but allows the professor to gauge whether other students need more clarification also.

STUDENT ADVANCEMENT