

# Simple Steps for Success in College

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## College Etiquette

- ★ Bring your A game!
- ★ Play well with others!
- ★ Participate appropriately!
- ★ Do not forget to communicate!
- ★ Know additional expectations!
- ★ When in doubt seek help!



## College Expectations

- ★ Appreciate more diversity (i.e. life experiences, culture, age, opinions, etc)
- ★ Time management is up to you and college moves at a faster pace
- ★ Good grades require hard work and dedication
- ★ College instructors give fewer exams than HS instructors and use a variety of teaching styles (lectures, discussions, online, labs, etc)
- ★ Classes are larger, more complex, and more impersonal
- ★ More reading in frequency, length, and depth
- ★ Help is available but must be initiated by you (take advantage of academic support services)

## Benefits of Higher Education

- ★ Enrichment and self-growth
- ★ Levels the playing field
- ★ Critical thinking skills and improved decision making skills
- ★ Further define and achieve your purpose
- ★ Accumulate knowledge
- ★ Develop networks and community
- ★ Increased pay rate
- ★ Study Abroad/Exchange opportunities
- ★ Prepares you for roles in an ever changing world

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## General Education Requirements

Most universities/colleges requires students to take certain courses regardless of their major. These courses are often referred to as general education requirements (GERs). They are intended to develop a broad set of essential intellectual and social competencies. GER's help students gain critical skills employers are looking for such as communication skills, reasoning, ability to integrate knowledge and employ creative thinking, and so much more. You have the flexibility to select topics that appeal to you while building critical skills, exploring interests, forming relationships with faculty and peers, and forging connections between different areas.

## Grades matter

Earning a low grade can negatively affect your academic standing and your Federal Financial Aid. Not putting effort forth may create the need to spend more time in and more money on college.

## Highly sequential majors

Graduating with a degree is more than completing a set number of credit hours. Some programs (such as those in the engineering and healthcare fields) require students to take courses in a very strict order. Because those courses are only offered at certain times of the year, regular advising appointments are essential.

## It is OK to ask for help

Even the best of students need academic support at times particularly when they are trying something new. Do not hesitate to use all of the great resources available. If you are not sure where to go for help reach out to your academic advisor or an instructor.



Photo by Paul Robinson, courtesy of flickr.com.

## Our Commitment

Your mentors are committed to serving the higher education needs of our foster youth. We are here to guide and encourage you to reach your academic goals.

**We are proud to be a part of your journey!**