

Tests in College

- Testing is usually infrequent and may be cumulative, covering large amounts of material. You, not the professor, need to organize the material to prepare for the test. A particular course may have only 2 or 3 tests a semester.
- Makeup tests are seldom an option; if they are, you need to request them.
- Professors in different courses usually schedule tests without regards to the demands of other courses or outside activities
- Professors rarely offer review sessions, and when they do, they expect you to be an active participant, one who comes prepared with questions

Grades in College

- Grades may not be provided for all assigned work.
- Grades on tests and major papers usually provide most of the course grade.
- Extra credit projects cannot, generally speaking, be used to raise a grade in a college course.
- Watch out for your first test. These are usually the “wake up calls” to let you know what is expected-but they also may account for a substantial part of your course grade. You may be shocked when you get your grades
- You may graduate only if your average in classes meets the department standard- typically a 2.0 or C
- Guiding principle. “Results count.” Though “good-faith effort” is important in regards to the professor's willingness to help you achieve good results, it will not substitute for results in the grading process.

Succeeding in College

- The academic year is divided into two separate 15 week semesters, plus a week after each semester for exams.
- You need to study at least 2 to 3 hours outside of class for every hour in class.
- You need to review class notes and text material regularly

- You are assigned substantial amounts of reading and writing which may not be directly addressed in class
- You are responsible for going to and using the resources that are provided to you by the college to succeed. For example, Tutors, Faculty at Learning Center, Writing Center, and Science Center here at NICC.
- Guiding Principle: It's up to you to read and understand the assigned material; lectures and assessments proceed from the assumption that you already done so.

College Professors

- Professors may not check completed homework , but they will assume you can perform the same task on test
- Professors may not remind you of incomplete work
- Professors are usually open and helpful, but most expect **YOU** to initiate contact if you need assistance
- Professors expect **YOU** to get from classmates any notes from the classes you missed
- Professors may not follow the text books. Instead follow the textbook. Instead, to amplify the text, they may give illustrations, provide background information, or discuss research about the topic you are studying. Or they may expect you to relate the classes to your text book readings.
- Professors may lecture nonstop, expecting **YOU** to identify the important points in your notes. When professors write on the board, it may be to amplify the lecture, not to summarize it. Good notes are a **MUST**
- Professors expect YOU to think about and synthesize seemingly unrelated topics.
- Professors expect you to read ,save and consult the course syllabus (outline); the syllabus spells out exactly what is expected of you , when its due , and how you will be graded
- Professors may not formally take roll, but they are still likely to know whether or not you attended.

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