What Your College Professor Expects From You

Before the semester begins

• Arrange to attend all class sessions.
• Reserve time for studying.
• Be present for all tests.

For the first class session

• Be present.
• Remember the instructor's name.
• Know the title, number, and section of the course.

For the second class session

• Read the syllabus.
• Purchase the books.
• Have a notebook or a separate section in a loose-leaf notebook for class notes.
• Begin to read the text.

During every class session, you should

• Follow the lecture and discussion, taking notes.
• Ask questions, offer or give examples, ask for clarification or repetition of point.
• Respect what other students have to say.

Before each class, you should

• Read the assignment carefully from beginning to end.
• Give thought to things in the reading which were not understood, marking passages, circling words, underlining.
• Use the dictionary to find out meanings of words.
• Give thought to questions you want to ask in class.
• Relate what you read to personal experiences.

After class, you should

• Review, organize, and complete lecture notes while you can still remember what was said in class.
• Talk about the material to someone else, like a tutor or study group.
In addition to preparing for class, there are some general things a student should do:

- Read for enjoyment- the newspaper, a novel, a magazine. Any reading will help sharpen your reading skills.
- Write letters to friends; keep a journal.
- Stay informed about world affairs; listen to the news, read the newspaper.

How much time should you be prepared to spend on each course?

Normally, a student is expected to spend two hours of study time for every hour you are in a lecture or discussion class.

So, if you are taking a class that meets three hours a week, you should spend six hours of concentrated study per week. That's what being a full-time student means!