

How to be a Class Act

You've probably figured it out by now that Fresno State is pretty different from high school. Not only are you in charge of managing your time and keeping yourself on track, but classes in college often have higher expectations of you as well. Here are a few strategies to help you be a Class Act in no time!



Adapt to Differences

- Every instructor is different and you may not always 'click' with their style.
- A big part of what you'll learn in college is how to adapt to different personalities, teaching styles, and expectations.
- Learn exactly what is expected of you in each class early in the semester.



Be Prepared

- This means being on time, going to every class, **and** staying for the entire period. When you're late, it tells your instructor that their class is not a priority to you.
- Have your homework completed and any material to be covered in lecture already skimmed - you'll be more prepared if you do!



Participate

- Sit as close to the front of class as possible - this makes it easier to pay attention and keep focus.
- Speak up and contribute to class or group discussions.
- Don't ignore the value of asking questions - you're paying to be here, so clarify anything that doesn't make sense.



Communicate

- Don't hesitate to contact an instructor **any time** you have a question, concern, or problem. Professors are not mind readers, and they can't help you if you don't ask.
- Get to know your fellow classmates or group members. They can be valuable resources to you when the instructor isn't available.



Get Connected

- Be sure you have contact information for at least one other student in each class. If you have to miss a lecture, at least you can get the notes!
- When involved in group work, keep your commitment to do your share and remember to be open to new ideas and viewpoints.



Homework Counts

- Homework is not a suggestion - it's a **requirement**, even if it's not collected or graded.
- Complete any extra credit work, even if you don't think you need it. Extra points can help you build a 'cushion' in your course grade that can help you when midterms and finals come around.