ATTEND CLASS

ATTEND CLASS. (I REPEAT THIS BECAUSE REGULAR ATTENDANCE IS PERHAPS THE SINGLE MOST IMPORTANT PREDICTOR OF SUCCESS ON EXAMS.) YOU OR SOMEONE ELSE IS SPENDING A LOT OF MONEY FOR YOU TO ATTEND THIS CLASS. FOR EXAMPLE, BASED ON Wabash's 2012-13 TUITION AND A Normal 8 CLASSES PER YEAR LOAD, FOR EACH M.W.F. CLASS YOU MISS DURING THE ACADEMIC YEAR, YOU HAVE WASTED $95; FOR EACH T.TH. CLASS MISSED, YOU HAVE WASTED $142. THIS LOST MONEY ADDS UP FAST.

DON'T FALL BEHIND IN YOUR DAILY CLASS WORK. (KEEP A PRECISE RECORD OF ASSIGNMENTS; DEVELOP A STUDY SCHEDULE AND STICK TO IT.) “FAILING TO PLAN IS PLANNING TO FAIL.”

BEGIN TO STUDY FOR EXAMS A FEW DAYS IN ADVANCE OF THE EXAM; DON'T WAIT UNTIL THE DAY BEFORE TO BEGIN STUDYING.

USE A SIMILAR STRATEGY FOR WRITING PAPERS; BEGIN A DRAFT A FEW DAYS BEFORE THE PAPER IS DUE AND WRITE IN STAGES: PLAN (BRAINSTORM), WRITE A ROUGH DRAFT, REVISE, AND EDIT.

READ YOUR ASSIGNMENTS WITH CARE; USE A HIGHLIGHTER IN THE BOOK AND TAKE NOTES, EITHER IN THE MARGINS OR BETTER YET IN A NOTEBOOK. THESE STRATEGIES WILL MAKE STUDYING FOR AN EXAM LATER MUCH EASIER AND THEY WILL HELP YOU WITH CLASS PARTICIPATION.

READ WITH QUESTIONS IN MIND AND THINK HOW THE MATERIAL RELATES TO CLASS DISCUSSIONS AND ISSUES. ANTICIPATE QUESTIONS THAT WILL BE ASKED IN CLASS DISCUSSIONS AND ON EXAMS. WRITE DOWN QUESTIONS ABOUT WHAT YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND AND ASK ABOUT THEM IN CLASS.

PARTICIPATE IN CLASSES, LISTEN TO WHAT IS BEING SAID, AND TAKE NOTES, EVEN WHEN YOUR CLASSMATES ARE SPEAKING. CONTRIBUTE YOUR OWN IDEAS. SHOW THE TEACHER THAT YOU ARE INTERESTED IN THE CLASS AND IN THE MATERIAL.

WHENEVER A TEACHER WRITES SOMETHING ON THE BOARD OR ON THE COMPUTER, WRITE IT DOWN; IT'S USUALLY IMPORTANT. PAY PARTICULAR ATTENTION TO CLASS HAND-OUTS.

WHENEVER YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND SOMETHING IN A READING ASSIGNMENT OR CLASS DISCUSSION, ASK YOUR TEACHER ABOUT IT EITHER DURING OR AFTER CLASS.
• IF YOU ARE HAVING PROBLEMS WITH A CLASS, SET UP A CONFERENCE WITH YOUR TEACHER. BE ON TIME FOR THE CONFERENCE AND COME WITH QUESTIONS.

• REMEMBER “SURVIVAL OF THE FITTEST.” ADAPT OR FAIL!!

• DON’T RELY ENTIRELY ON THE INTERNET FOR NEWS. READ NEWSPAPERS AND NEWSMAGAZINES. WATCH TELEVISION NEWS SHOWS. WELL-EDUCATED PEOPLE KNOW A LOT ABOUT CURRENT EVENTS.

• IN SELECTING A MAJOR, PICK AN AREA OF STUDY THAT YOU REALLY ENJOY; DON’T BECOME OBSESSED WITH ITS CAREER POSSIBILITIES.

• BEGIN EARLY TO THINK ABOUT WHAT YOU WANT TO DO WHEN YOU GRADUATE FROM COLLEGE. DEVELOP CAREER-RELATED SKILLS THROUGH EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES, INTERNSHIPS, OFF-CAMPUS STUDY, AND SUMMER JOBS.

• GET INVOLVED IN CAMPUS ACTIVITIES; TRY NEW THINGS.

HAVE FUN; THERE’S MORE TO COLLEGE THAN JUST ACADEMICS.

WABASH SCHOLAR-ATHLETES

You represent Wabash, the athletic department, and your team. Be an Academic Role Model for the Campus.

Communicate with your teachers about potential missed class time well in advance of a scheduled athletic event and then keep reminding them of when you will miss class.

Communicate with coaches in advance about academic responsibilities that may conflict with team responsibilities, particularly field trips.

Don’t use athletics as an excuse to avoid academic responsibilities.

Don’t use academics as an excuse to avoid athletic responsibilities.

You have plenty of resources at Wabash to help you succeed--faculty, staff, and coaches; reach out to them.

Potential employers appreciate scholar-athletes who are adept at managing their time and perform well in the classroom, a sport, and other campus activities.

First, contribute to your team’s efforts to be nationally recognized for academic excellence; next, work for yourself to receive Academic All-American status, NCAA post-graduate scholarships, a place on Wabash’s “Top 25 Student-Athlete GPAs.”

REMEMBER YOU ARE A SCHOLAR-ATHLETE, NOT A student-athlete or athlete-student.

Professor Tobey C. Herzog
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