

Classroom Savvy

One aspect of doing well in college is creating a good impression. It may sound shallow at first, but don't we all make decisions about people in part based on the impressions they make? Here are some ways to be savvy about the impression you make in your classes:

- ✓ **Attend every class.** (90% of success is showing up.)
 - When you must miss, contact your professor, ahead of time if possible. Find out what you missed, make it up, and be prepared for next class. Don't EVER ask, "Did we do anything important in class today?" Think about it....
 - Make friends in each class – to help you catch up if you miss, to study with, for general support.
- ✓ **Always be on time for class.** Then if you must be late, it is an anomaly, not a bad habit.
- ✓ **Attend to what goes on in class.**
 - Have a positive attitude toward the professor and the class!
- ✓ **Come to class prepared.** Read the assignment and review your notes!
- ✓ **Participate in class discussions.** Even if you are shy, push yourself to try it.
- ✓ **Show an interest in the subject.** Your professor is interested, and s/he will appreciate your interest.
- ✓ **Take advantage of study sessions, labs, tutoring, other outside help.**
- ✓ **Set goals for your classes.**
- ✓ **Get to know your professors.**
- ✓ **Ask questions when you don't fully understand.**
- ✓ **Seek outside sources if you need further clarification.** (library, internet, tutor)
- ✓ **Meet with your professor now and then to discuss how you are doing.**
- ✓ **Go the extra mile on your papers and other assignments.**
- ✓ **Evaluate yourself from time to time.** Ask yourself, *if being a student were a job, would I pay a person for doing what I'm doing?*

If you do these things, you will have impressed your professors. You will have also increased the likelihood of making a good grade in your classes. It's a win-win!!