TEN THINGS I WISH I HAD KNOWN WHEN I FIRST STARTED COLLEGE

Bellevue Community College
TRiO Student Support Services
Learning Strategies for Student Success
1. Attend classes

- In college the pace is three times faster than high school, so missing one day is like missing 3 in high school. That’s a lot of missed information, and it will impact your grade.
- Even if an instructor doesn’t take attendance, they still notice who is in class and who is not. When it’s time to give grades, you better believe this little piece of info is factored into their decision.
2. Be on time for class

- Late comers disrupt the instructor and other students. Because of the difficult parking problem on campus, be sure to allow enough time so you’re not late to class.
3. Keep all your class syllabbi.

• Each syllabus is your road map and guide to succeed in that class. Study each class syllabus, and mark all pertinent dates on your calendar.

• If you don’t have a calendar, visit the front office and the Assistant, Christine, will give you one for your notebooks.
4. Be aware of semester deadlines.

Examples are:

- The last day to add a class
- The last day to drop a class
- The last day to withdraw without a “W’ on your transcript
- The last day for the full refund on book returns
5. Learn the names of all your instructors, where their offices are, what their office hours are and how to contact them by phone and email.

- Use this information to meet with your instructor to clarify any questions you might have about the class. By approaching your instructor this way, they’ll learn who you are, too.
6. Begin studying the first day of class.

- Study consistently. Don’t wait, thinking you can cram.
- To successfully compete in college, it requires at least two hours of studying for each hour you’re in class.
  - So if you have 12 credits this semester, you’ll spend 12 hours in class and 24 hours studying each week. That’s almost a full time job!
7. Introduce yourself to several fellow classmates.

- This will be helpful in several ways, such as;
  - having someone to contact for notes if you must miss class, as well as
  - having a study buddy or study group when it comes to quizzes and exams.
8. If you’re having difficulty in class TRiO has many academic support services for you to use.

- First of all, talk to your instructor about the difficulty you’re having.
- Then, see your academic advisor in SSS or CESA. They can connect you with the appropriate academic resource.
- A comprehensive list of campus resources is also available for you online. Meet with an advisor sooner rather than later!
9. Remember, college transcripts follow you the rest of your life.

- Future educational institutions and future employers will want to see your transcripts.

- This is not to scare you, but to motivate you!
10. Enjoy all of the opportunities available to you at the University of Utah.

- To balance all your hard work in class and studying, take advantage of the many and varied activities and clubs provided by ASSU and Student Programs.

- Also, keep your eyes open for flyers posted around campus for coming events.