



Academic Expectations at CSUF

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- I. We expect each student who enters our university to be successful. Successful students will: **learn** in each class; **master** their academic discipline/major; **contribute** to the academic community by involvement in classes, volunteering in student organizations and activities, following university policies and procedures; **develop** intellectually, emotionally, socially, ethically, spiritually; **graduate** from CSUF and **assume their role** as responsible and ethical global citizens.

How do you do that? Implement the recommendations you learned at orientation, utilize the resources provided by the university including your Advisor, Assistant Dean and the Student Handbook, ask questions, and understand the expectations of the university for all students.

II. Expectations for college students

1. **In-class behavior.** This is an academic setting and therefore some behaviors are **not appropriate** in the classroom: eating, drinking, sleeping, talking to your neighbor, arriving late or leaving early, or having activated electronic equipment. Act as if all of the above are **not** acceptable unless told otherwise by the professor in each of your classes.
2. **Attendance policy.** While it is always a **good idea** to attend every class in order to learn the material, do well on the exams, and maximize your financial investment, consistent attendance in some classes will be critical because attendance will be counted as part of your grade.
3. **Know your syllabus.** You **must** read your syllabus for each class and ask questions of the professor if expectations are not clear. Each professor will expect that you have read the syllabus, understand it and that you will follow the specific guidelines on attendance, exams, papers, etc. **Do not assume** all professors have the same expectations and grading policies.
4. **Be prepared for class and ready to participate.** Read the assignment, take notes, prepare questions, bring appropriate materials to class such as textbooks, notebooks, and pencils/pens, participate, pay attention to the professor, look interested, and even better **be interested!**
5. **Don't be disruptive in class.** This includes having side conversations, sleeping, having cell phones go off, etc. If you are tired or bored, instead of sleeping or reading the newspaper in class – **don't go to class!** Such acts are disrespectful to the professor and other students. In addition, you can be removed from the classroom by the professor and sent to the Dean of Students Office for any actions which disrupt the learning and teaching in the class.
6. **Attend Office Hours** or speak with your professor before or after class. Each professor is required to have office hours. Be prepared when you go to office hours – don't expect the professor to re-teach you everything that you did not get in class. If you have a question about your grades speak to the professor as soon as possible.

7. **Understand the university structure.** You all attend CSUF but each of you are in a different College (Arts, Business & Economics, Communication, Education, Engineering & Computer Science, Humanities and Social Sciences, Natural Science & Mathematics, Human Development & Community Service) Each College is headed by a Dean and there are also Associate Deans and Assistant Deans in each college. Each department has a Chairperson. If you have a concern about your professor you should first try to resolve the matter with the professor and if that is not successful you should consult with the Chair of that department. To find a location on campus you may call directory information at X2011 on a campus phone.
8. **Know university dead-lines** for dropping classes, paying tuition, applying for financial aid, etc. Consult the course schedule and catalogue. Understand policies and procedures involving registering for courses or declaring a major or minor. Ignorance of information made accessible to you will not be cause to waive policies, procedures standards or regulations.
9. **Know policies and procedures of the university concerning academic dishonesty and misconduct.** Academic dishonesty is the attempt to gain an unfair academic advantage or to assist or permit someone to do so. Protect your academic work from others and don't take unfair advantage of other student's work. Don't sit next to friends during exams. Understand what plagiarism is.
10. **Understand consequences of academic dishonesty.** In addition to a grade penalty ranging from a "0" on an assignment to an "F" in the course, students may receive additional sanctions including dismissal from the academic department, revocation of admission, suspension or expulsion from the university with a notation on the transcript. The consequences for committing academic dishonesty are never worth it! Don't cheat yourself out of learning, disadvantage other students and degrade the value of a CSUF degree.
11. **Seek academic and career advisement.** Prepare before you meet with your advisor. Read the catalogue and class schedule to know what questions to ask. You are responsible for understanding your GE and major requirements.
12. **Keep accurate records.** Be a good consumer of your education and maintain all your records related to your academic career in an organized fashion.
13. **Demonstrate effective writing, speaking and critical thinking skills.** We expect all students to demonstrate all of these skills during their academic career. It is helpful to ask someone to look over your writing assignments before you submit for grading. Be sure that you do not receive too much assistance on your assignment or it could be academic dishonesty. Don't forget that you can utilize the Writing Center.

We want your experience at Cal State Fullerton to be the best that it can possibly be. This means that you must be responsible for your own education. As a CSUF student you will be treated like a mature intelligent adult, expected to conduct yourself with integrity and honesty, and with respect for the rights of others. Thus, we will not contact or respond to your parents or family members. We will expect you to keep them informed concerning your university experience. For all of these reasons it is essential that you understand the rules and policies of the University.