

City Tech is Around the Corner. Are you Prepared?

Tips on How to Achieve Success in Your First Year of College

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College: A place where a group of professional people have particular aims, duties and privileges that wants to be fulfilled. It can be a place however that seems pretty intimidating. There are many things to expect. Having to behave as if you're already in the work field, being prepared for every scenario regarding your classes, it's a lot to take in and take a whole lot of commitment is needed to follow through and get it done with great results. Well, now I'll be teaching you in this mini guide how you'll be able to succeed in your first year of college and have you one step forward to reaching your desired goals.

A Typical First Semester in City Tech

A typical first semester starts out with the student being completely lost in its environment. Each class that is given would usually have one or two advertising design classes and maybe three liberal arts so that you won't lose what you already learned in high school and apply it to these classes. You'll be able to push aside these classes if done soon and get on to what you really want to do for your career. The professors refresh your memory on the Adobe Suite so if you already know them, don't get discouraged, you'll be able to start the challenging work in due time. Work is constantly given so make sure to get it done as soon as possible.

Following these easy steps will guarantee you a successful first year:

Step 1: Sleeping Early

It's not easy waking up at 6:30 in the morning when you have a class at 8am and you live far away from the college. Especially if all you're doing is playing video games, talking on the phone, and are on the computer till 2am. (Guilty as charged). Sleeping early is the best way to wake up fully energized for the day. 6-8 hours is the ideal amount of time you need. This would also help you to make it on class on time and not be one of those people walking into the class 30 minutes late and being stared down as you walk to your seat. (It has happened...to me as well).

Step 2: Participate

You know that Nike slogan? Yes that one, "Just do it". That's all that is needed to do when you participate. It doesn't matter what you say. You can be right and even if you're not, the professor will correct you and also give you props for at least trying your best while everyone just sits around being silent. I'm usually quiet (professors tell me that a lot). However they know you have potential with all the hard work you put into the class. Don't waste the opportunity. It's an easy 5-10% of your grade. That may seem little but it can affect you greatly.

Step 3: Getting the Work Done and On Time

College assignments can be overwhelming at times. Take it slow and easy. Rushing through it without thinking will affect your grade tremendously especially since the professors are expecting the best out of every student. Research is keen, so open that textbook, read, and start it. Getting the work done on time will make you have time for other things. Waiting till the last minute will strip you of all your freedom where you're forced to rush through and get a poor grade on it. Professors know when you've done it last minute.

Resources a Newcomer should know

Something an incoming student should know or at least have the gist of it is the Adobe Suite. This includes:

- Photoshop
- Indesign
- Illustrator

Knowing those three programs will make the projects assigned to you simple and with the professor's help you'll be able to learn more of the program you're not familiar with. There are quite a number of computer labs scattered around the building. Some of the best ones are located in the 6th Floor Lounge of the Namm building, as well as the one located on the ground level in the Namm as well. If you want to buy or rent any books, the book store is located on the 1st floor to the back entrance of the Namm building. The library is located on the 4th floor Atrium of the Namm building. For those who need a quiet space to do work; I suggest doing the work on the top floor of the library. The stairs are located in front as soon as you walk in from the entrance. Lastly, for any questions regarding your financial aid, your classes as well as paying for them, the offices are located in the ground level of the main entrance of the Namm building as soon as you walk in and show your ID, it's past the set of doors in front of you.

Challenges You Might Encounter

Books can be a huge problem for most of the semesters to come. Looking at the price of these will make you think again before buy them but there're many options available to you. These are some ways you can avoid the large prices:

- Renting / Buying Used Books
- Buying an Older Version
- Bulletin Boards (located on every floor near Elevators) can have Book Sales posted.

There may be times when you might forget how to do things on the Adobe programs or are not sure on how to do something. When you're in the College labs or in the Library ask a worker there. He/she is also a fellow student and is trying to help anyone in need of assistance no matter what the question is (as long as it is related to your work).

When it comes to a first semester in City Tech remember the following: Keep your head in the game, this isn't a joke anymore. This is the real world. There will always be people to help you when you're having fork on the road. Lastly is to make sure and practice everything that is taught to you in order to enhance and use these skills in the real world.