

DINING ETIQUETTE

Maria Mannan

New York City College of Technology

BUF 4900

PROF. Dr. Adomaitis

Manners are essential to present a good impression on others in daily life. It helps to increase self-confidence no matter what the occasion is. Whether it's at home spending time with family, at work with colleagues or friends, practicing good manners are extremely necessary. Dining Etiquette can have an effect on social events. Meals are a common part of working with clients in the business world. Therefore formal gatherings aren't there to fill one's stomach. It's an opportunity to network and exchange knowledge. Knowing proper dining etiquette can really focus on much more significant things such as carrying a good conversation. It can make or break business opportunities.

Students are always busy with school, maintaining a high GPA and graduating that they forget to prepare themselves for the real world. Dining etiquette plays a significant role in today's business world. This workshop is offered through the Professional Development Center at The City University of New York, CUNY to provide senior level students networking skills in everything from interviews and business meetings. There's only one chance to make a good first impression and it's unlikely to ever change. Therefore it's essential to think about the kind of impressions one may want to leave.

“Every business meal is an interview, so table manners are essential to your professional success as you give attention to the tiniest of details” (Fallon, 2015). Often, even after having an exceptional resume and amazing interviews, the lack of knowledge of social etiquette can prevent one from obtaining a good offer. It's the little details that can impact big opportunities. Dining etiquette, its objective is to educate one what to bring to the table and not what they're

doing at the table. Some of the “Do’s” are, when finished, placing the fork upside down on the plate. Cutting the Entrée one bite at a time. Moderate drinking during business setting. Wait until everyone is served. Hands may be placed in laps. Cell phones, wallets or purses should be placed under the seat and not on the table. Knowing these simple etiquettes can help anyone represent a sharp self-image during social events. The very last thing an individual wants to do is embarrass themselves in front of their potential boss.

As a participant, the value of taking this professional development course was that it strongly emphasized how important it is to practice proper dining etiquette. Upper management are constantly aware of how their employees represent image on behalf of the company. An employee's value will be determined by how successful they are at projecting that image. Many wonderful opportunities, jobs and careers can be lost by not displaying proper manners. This workshop enhances the importance of dining etiquettes. Educates one how to represent a proper self-image in society as well as showing respect to culture and traditions.

References

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