

# *How to Boost Your GPA*

TEACHING AND LEARNING CENTER

Here are tips to BOOST your GPA. Getting better grades comes down to three simple but extra-important steps:

## **TIP 1**

**Know the class policies, assignments, and expectations.**

1. First thing, pull out the ever-important class syllabus and **read it cover to cover.**
2. Become familiar with your professor's expectations for your performance in the course.
  - Is there an attendance policy? If you are late, are you considered absent?
  - Are there daily or "pop" quizzes?
  - Are you expected to participate (for points) in class? Are these graded?
  - Are assignments turned in to the professor or to an on-line drop box?
  - Does the professor minimally use D2L or use it for everything from quizzes to tests, to on-line discussions?
  - Is your course on a midterm/final or tri-term (3 tests) schedule?
  - Are there extra-credit opportunities if you blow the first quiz/test?

These are just a few of the many questions that your syllabus answers . . . Know it well and glance at it daily.

## **TIP 2**

**Buy your textbook and consume it totally and wholly!** Make it look like it has been through a catastrophic event with all of its highlighting, margin notes, bent pages and worn cover.

**Textbooks were not meant to be shared or to be kept in mint condition** - they are the backbone of the course with essential information which lets you get points, points, and more points on quizzes and tests! Take it seriously - make it yours!

## **TIP 3**

Begin studying for tests the first day of the course. The knowledge you need for tests needs time to accumulate. Your reading, assignments (DON'T call it busy work!), and class notes/discussions are all a part of the essential material you need to learn for your exams.

**Insert reading notes before or after your class notes each day** - accumulate information much as you would **accumulate wealth -- one day at a time.** You'll be amazed at how much you have when you really need it!

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