How to be Successful in the Classroom

Hosted by the ISSO, Gee Library, and Writing Center
Academic Success Center

Services provided:

- Math SI Leaders (Undergrad Students)
- Gee Library Walk In Tutoring (Subject vary)
- JAMP Room (STC 110 for Sciences)
- Online Services with Tutor.com (Undergraduate Students)
Academic Success Center

Contact:

Jodi.Oelrich@tamuc.edu
ASC@tamuc.edu

903-468-8620

Gee Library 103
James Gee Library

• Research & Instruction Librarians to help you learn how to navigate library resources.

• Digital Research Databases that provide electronic access to books, magazines, journals, newspapers, and a variety of other sources
James Gee Library

- Extended hours, including 24 hours during the week
- Group & Individual Study Rooms
- Sandella’s Flatbread Café & Starbucks Coffee
- Make copies & scans
- Check out books
- Wireless Internet access
- Computer labs to print material from different data sources or course assignments/papers

www.tamuc.edu/library
Writing Center

Hall of Languages 103

writing.tamuc@gmail.com

903-468-5280
Cultural Differences

What may be acceptable in your home country regarding academics may not be here in the U.S.
Relationships with instructors may be more informal here than in many other countries.
• More informal here than in many countries

• Students are encouraged to talk to instructors, discuss class related subjects, problems with the class

• Instructors often keep office hours virtual hours to assist students

• Instructors are available by appointment
Build relationships with your instructors

- Email/call/make an appointment
- Introduce yourself
- Ask questions - most instructors encourage this
- Ask for help
Classroom Differences

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Classroom Differences

- Participation in classroom discussion is encouraged or required
- Students often collaborate…but this may be limited
- Limit talking and cell phone use in the classroom
- Do not arrive late for class
- Follow the syllabus
Map or guide for your class. Very important!

Click here. CSCI 515 Syllabus
What is plagiarism?

• Taking credit of someone else's work or ideas
• Stealing others' results or methods
• Copying the writing of others without proper acknowledgement
• Falsely taking credit for the work or ideas of another
What does plagiarism look like?

According to www.plagiarism.org, some examples are:

- turning in someone else's work as your own
- copying words or ideas from someone else without giving credit
- failing to put a quotation in quotation marks
- giving incorrect information about the source of a quotation
What does plagiarism look like?

- changing words but copying the sentence structure of a source without giving credit

- copying so many words or ideas from a source that it makes up the majority of your work, whether you give credit or not (see our section on "fair use" rules)
Constructivism is a movement that extends beyond the beliefs of the cognitivist. It considers the engagement of students in meaningful experiences as the essence of learning.

Constructivists do not hold views entirely opposed to those of the cognitivists. The position of constructivists extends beyond the beliefs of the cognitivist.
Some Examples of Plagiarism

Constructivism is a movement *that extends beyond the beliefs of the cognitivist*. It considers the engagement of students in meaningful experiences as the essence of learning.

Constructivists do not hold views entirely opposed to those of the cognitivists. *The position of constructivists extends beyond the beliefs of the cognitivist.*
Constructivists do not hold views entirely opposed to those of the cognitivists. The position of constructivists "... extends beyond the beliefs of the cognitivist" (Heinich, Molenda, Russell, & Smaldino, 1999, p. 17).
What is cheating?

- Copying somebody else’s homework and turning it in as your own
- Obtaining answer keys/test questions without the instructor’s permission and using them as shortcuts to study
- Paying someone to take your online class for you
What is cheating?

- Paying someone to take your online class for you
- Attempting online exams in groups without the instructor’s permission
- Attempting exams with access to books/notes without the instructor’s permission
If you have a question about what is permissible, ask!

Some instructors allow open book tests in their classes, and other exceptions.
Tips to being a successful student

- Read all assignments completely including your Syllabi
- Manage your time wisely
- Participate in class discussions.
- Become an active learning by forming a study group.
- Go to class every session.
- Take good notes, read those notes, most instructors take exam questions from material presented in lecture.
Caught in academic dishonesty?

Students will generally be referred to the Dean of Students and given a failing grade in the course.