

TOP 10 CAUSES OF ACADEMIC FAILURE

1.) * **Avoid taking or understanding your responsibility**

You have heard this before, “College is *NOT* like High School.

Ex: Your parents should continue to be a resource for guidance, but they should not be administratively doing everything for you. The goal is to learn to do things for yourself and make yourself as competitive as possible for your career.

2.) * **False security due to high grades in high school:**

In high school teachers assumed a lot of the responsibility for your education. In college, you assume the responsibility.

You are expected to keep up with the instructors regardless of whether you agree with their instructional styles.

3.) * **Unrealistic expectations:**

Seek and evaluate areas where you need academic improvement. Know your limits when designing your course load in addition to work/extracurricular activities. Always have a back-up plan in case a chosen path isn't meeting your expectations.

The university has resources to advise and assist you in catching up to the many levels necessary to succeed in your academic goals. (Ex: tutoring, advising, counseling, etc.)

4.) * **Delaying in seeking help, advise, or assistance:**

Don't protect your pride rather than your future. You are not alone in majority of your issues or concerns. Seek guidance from your advisor or other faculty/staff on campus.

Don't be intimidated by professors. Majority of them want to see committed students succeed.

5.) * **Overextending yourself:**

Balance your time wisely. There are numerous amounts of organizations, functions, and programs in addition to the variety of people you will meet at these events.

We encourage you to get involved. However, it should not be at the expense of the dedicated time towards your studies. Time management is critical to all types of success.

6.) * **Don't read or research for yourself:**

In high school, your teachers may check behind you to make sure you have done your homework. In college, most instructors will assign readings/assignments but won't always necessarily check behind you.

However, collegiate exams and research papers will require you to not only memorize concepts but to apply them. Failure to read/research or practice to truly understand the material will result in failure in examinations and research papers.

7.) * Keeping quiet while struggling to cope:

It is important that you discuss with your instructor and/or contact your academic advisor if you are struggling academically in any of your courses.

Situations may happen in your life that are beyond your control and can interfere with your studies. Make sure you address any issues or concerns with appropriate faculty/staff.

8.) * Lack or loss of motivation:

You need to keep yourself reminded why you are here and your purpose. It's ok if you are unsure about your major or a particular career. You can still set short term goals for yourself each semester.

Take advantage of this time and make the most of it for yourself. Gain a true education not just in your studies but through the experiences of college life and the network of relationships you build for yourself.

9.) * Taking your education for granted:

Every student is fortunate to be here. You cannot simply depend on the degree to get you a job upon graduation. Don't wait until you are senior to take advantage of our programs.

The four-year institution is a hub of activities and programs design to help you grow and develop you into a competitive job applicant. Get started early!

10.) * Making poor decisions:

Critical thinking is essential to making sound decisions for your life. Many of the liberal arts based foundational courses you take will improve your critical thinking skills by analyzing and evaluating information, literature, concepts, etc. through multiple ways of thinking and viewing the world around you.

Don't lean on your emotions. The best decision may not be the most desirable. Gather all of the facts, advice, and possible outcomes when making any minor or major decision.