

Do's and Don'ts of Classroom Behavior For Adult Students

Don't

- If you are absent from class, ask your professor if you missed anything important (every class is important!).
- Have side conversations during class. If you have a question, ask the professor not another student or you will both be lost.
- Overparticipate in class discussions. Give others a chance to contribute and yourself to learn from their input.
- Walk in or out of class while the lecture is going on. If necessary, explain your situation to the professor.
- Ask if the lecture today will be on something important.
- Call your professor at home unless you have been given permission to do so.
- Go over the professor's head unless you have to. If you have a complaint it is best to see the professor first if possible.
- Sit in the back row of the classrooms.
- Leave class early or unannounced. This is disruptive and inconsiderate.
- Act disinterested, pompous, or bored.
- Discuss your work with your professor at the end of the class period. Schedule an appointment during office hours.
- Assume your professor only teaches one class and has no other responsibilities on committees or research projects.
- Give the professor gifts.
- Correct the professor in front of the class.
- Bring children to class without your professor's permission.

Do

- Ask questions that are pertinent to the topic being discussed.
- Come to class prepared, having completed the reading assignments.
- Discuss your personal situation (parent, full-time employee, commuter student) with your professor to create a plan if you must miss class in the event of an emergency. Discuss how to communicate with the professor and the consequences of missing class time.
- Let the professor know when you must miss class or an exam in advance whenever possible.
- Expect professors to hold adult learners to a high standard.
- Be honest with your professors.
- Try to solve your own problems or at least come up with a reasonable solution when approaching the professor.
- Know your rights. Keep all copies of printed materials.
- Show up on time.
- Assume that all tasks/assignments are important and do your best to be sure that your work is done to your best ability and within deadlines.
- Realize that all tasks are not fun, personally rewarding, or exciting.
- Take the initiative once in a while to go the extra mile in class or assignments.
- Develop a positive mental attitude about school and your goals.
- Come to class with proper materials: paper pen, books, etc.