

COMMUNICATE WITH INSTRUCTORS

1. MEET YOUR PROFESSOR

Professors have many responsibilities to juggle including research, teaching, traveling to conferences and administrative tasks. However, they DO want to talk with you. Go to office hours and meet your professors!



2. SHOW YOUR INTEREST

Professors want you to be as interested in their subject as they are. Nothing excites them more than knowing you are passionate about what they teach. You can show your interest by participating in class, attending office hours and emailing your professors if you have questions.



3. VISIT EARLY

Building a rapport with your professors early in the semester will pay off if you need an extension or extra help later on. Profs like when you visit office hours but they don't appreciate it when panicked students ask for an extension an hour before an assignment is due. Most professors will be very accommodating if you ask for help well in advance.



4. GO THE EXTRA MILE

Talk to your professor when you:

- Need an extension
- Need clarification on course material
- Are experiencing challenges in your personal life that impact your academic performance
- Are considering pursuing a major or graduate degree in their subject area



5. BUILD RELATIONSHIPS

Believe or not, your professors are really interesting people. You might just enjoy their company. They can also open doors to academic research, serve as mentors and may write you a reference letter down the road. Build strong relationships with your profs while you still have the chance.

