

# WORK SUCCESSFULLY WITH PROFESSORS

Working with your professors in a **positive, productive** way will result in a more fulfilling and more enjoyable experience in your classes. These **strategies** are designed to help you maximize your own performance and help you earn a **higher final grade** at the end of the term



- 1) SIT IN THE FRONT OF THE ROOM.**

Sitting in or near the front will make you more visible, and help your professor to get to know you early in the semester. It also sends a message that you are engaged with what is happening in the class.
- 2) BE ATTENTIVE, AND PARTICIPATE ACTIVELY.**

Actively participating in class discussions can still help you to get a better grade. By participating, you demonstrate your understanding of the course content, and you show your professor that you are engaged.
- 3) ASK QUESTIONS.**

Many students often feel afraid to do this, because they assume that everyone else in the class understands things better than they do. This is rarely the case. Asking questions also lets the professor know that you are paying attention.
- 4) USE OFFICE HOURS.**

This is your chance for one-on-one time with your professor or TA. It's your chance to get detailed clarification of concepts you don't understand, and also to continue building a rapport with them.
- 5) TREAT YOUR PROFESSORS RESPECTFULLY.**

First, respect their time. If you make an appointment, show up, and be on time. Second, be polite and respectful, even if you are feeling angry or frustrated. Approach your professor in a courteous and considerate manner.
- 6) BE PROACTIVE IF YOU RUN INTO PROBLEMS.**

Professors want to be supportive. If you have an extended illness or other personal circumstance, communicate with your professors regularly as the situation is unfolding.