TRANSITIONING TO COLLEGE

Presented by TRIO: Student Support Services
How is College Different from High School?

- College is voluntary and expensive
  - Managing your own time
  - Your expected to take responsibility
  - You make your own schedule

- Every Class matters
  - Attendance

- More is expected of you! You are an adult!
  - Classroom Etiquette
MANAGING YOUR OWN TIME

- High school was mandatory and usually FREE
  - Know your resources and maximize them, you are paying for them!
- Managing your own time
  - In high school others structured your time
  - You often have time between classes, maximize it! (getting ahead in other assignments, research, getting organized etc.)
  - In high school you mainly had little assignments that didn’t weigh as much-In college you have more large papers and cumulative tests that weigh more on your grade.
  - These tests and papers may not be brought to your attention—it’s your responsibility to keep up with syllabus
Managing your time

- In college you need to study 2 to 3 hours outside of class for each hour in class.
- You have to review notes and materials regularly.
Your Expected to Take Responsibility…

- You're expected to take responsibility
  - Your GPA isn’t your instructors problem
    - Don’t wait until it is to late...know your professors office hours, and use them!
    - Extra credit is slim to none in college-put in effort so you don’t have to think about extra
    - Don’t wait until your grades completely drop, get tutoring early in the semester!!
  - Communicate with your instructor
    - If you know you're going to be absent let them know maybe you can take an exam early, NEVER LATE!
    - Professors are usually helpful, but they expect you to initiate contact
YOUR EXPECTED TO TAKE RESPONSIBILITY… (CONT.)

Learning environment

- You might find instructors lecture without stopping to emphasize important points
  - It is up to you take notes, listen, and grasp the importance point from lecture

GRADES ARE EARNED

- Don’t disrespect your instructor by blaming your grade(s) on them. Instead saying “they can’t teach” or “I tried.” Say something like this…”I’m concerned about the grade I received. It’s not what I expected, is there a time we can discuss what I can do differently?”

- [http://smu.edu/alec/transition.asp](http://smu.edu/alec/transition.asp)
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