

Strategies for Academic Success

Course Overview and Syllabus

Course Number: EL1187

Grade level: 9–12

Prerequisite Courses: None

Credits: 0.5

Course Description

Offering a comprehensive analysis of different types of motivation, study habits, and learning styles, this one-semester course encourages high school and middle school students to take control of their learning by exploring varying strategies for success. Providing engaging lessons that will help students identify what works best for them individually, this one-semester course covers important study skills, such as strategies for taking high-quality notes, memorization techniques, test-taking strategies, benefits of visual aids, and reading techniques.

Course Objectives

Throughout the course, you will meet the following goals:

- Compare different types of motivation and explain how motivation affects academics
- Understand the concept of academic integrity, and define cheating as it relates to online learning
- Identify different types of organizers, and describe the purposes of each
- Describe different strategies for remembering information
- List and explain each of the five steps of test preparation
- Explain the importance of following a rubric
- Describe the benefits of creating study groups, and distinguish the characteristics of quality study groups

Student Expectations

This course requires the same level of commitment from you as a traditional classroom course would. Throughout the course, you are expected to spend approximately 5–7 hours per week online on the following activities:

- Interactive lessons that include a mixture of instructional videos and tasks
- Assignments in which you apply and extend learning in each lesson
- Assessments, including quizzes, tests, and cumulative exams

Communication

Your teacher will communicate with you regularly through discussions, email, chat, and system announcements. You will also communicate with classmates, either via online tools or face to face, as you collaborate on project, ask and answer questions in your peer group, and develop speaking and listening skills.

Grading Policy

You will be graded on the work you do online and the work you submit electronically to your teacher. The weighting for each category of graded activity is listed below.

Grading Category	Weight
Assignments	10%
Essays	0%
Lesson Quizzes	40%
Unit Tests	50%
Cumulative Exams	0%
Additional	0%

Scope and Sequence

When you log into the Virtual Classroom, you can view the entire course map, which provides a scope and sequence of all topics you will study. Clicking a lesson's link in the course map leads to a page listing instructional activities, assignments, and learning objectives specific to that lesson. The units of study are summarized below:

Unit 1: Taking Control of My Academic Success

Unit 2: Your Online Learning Experience

Unit 3: Taking High-Quality Notes

Unit 4: Memorization Techniques

Unit 5: Five Steps to Test Preparation

Unit 6: Test-Taking Strategies

Unit 7: The Benefits of Visual Aids

Unit 8: Using References

Unit 9: Quality Final Products

Unit 10: Strategies for Academic Success

Unit 11: Reading Techniques