



Tips for the Up and Coming Running Start Student

02 March 2010

Special points of interest:

- Driving Tips
- Grades Tips
- Classwork Tips
- Homework Tips
- Other Tips

Classwork Tips

1. Teachers are happy to answer questions outside of class and the best way to ask is to go to their office during regular office hours, but you can also communicate with your teacher via e-mail.
2. Don't be afraid to ask questions because chances are that someone in the class shares the same question as you and your peers are all there to learn as well.
3. Unless you think you're ready to handle intense loads of homework, don't take more than one difficult class. Math and science credits can be very stressful and take a lot of time each night to complete homework. I suggest that they are taken separately.
4. PAY ATTENTION. Failure to do so and before you know it you will have fallen behind.
5. Be respectful. Your classmates aren't being distracting so you should not distract them.
6. Come to class prepared because chances are that the professor does not want to stop mid-lecture to give you a pen or some paper.
7. Practice good note taking. Going home to find barely legible handwriting is not a good scenario in that it takes a while to translate and when reviewing for tests it will impede your studying.

Homework Tips

1. The truth is that most students will procrastinate whether they do it willingly or not. A good tip is that you have to start the procrastination cycle, wait a few weeks into the quarter so that you can accurately gauge the homework load.
2. Take advantage of the math and writing centers! There are free tutors and writing guides that can nearly always help you learn something. Not just to answer the problem, but to actually learn why.
3. The local libraries are also great places to study and to use as an informational resource. The librarians are there to help and don't worry about bothering them because they like to help!
4. If you're looking for a quiet place after class to do some work then take advantage of the campus study areas. Located all around the campus, there are areas where students can use computers or desks to do homework.
5. The culminating project may not be a requirement to graduate for much longer, but as long as it is in effect it would be very wise to start early. Trying to tackle the CP during school for a Running Start student is a little more difficult because there isn't as much time during the day to finish the project due to the cast amounts of time spent on homework and studying.

Other Tips

1. The food on campus is decent in taste and decent in price, but bringing lunch from home saves money and you have the power to choose what you eat rather than a few vending machines.
2. Text books can only be sold back to the student book store during finals so don't put off the sell-back.
3. If you are entering the Running Start program as a junior in high school then you are not required to have all of your level 5 essays written. English 101 will help you to compose essays that easily satisfy high school standards and because most people take 101 in the first quarter at Running Start, it is easy to knock the level 5 essays out before graduating.

Driving Tips

1. Parking passes cost less quarterly than paying daily for a spot.
2. Parking passes can be bought for 3 day weeks and 5 day weeks.
3. Carpooling saves gas money and the pass costs half of the price.
4. Carpoolers get the best parking spots in the whole garage.
5. Freeway is usually the quickest way to get to school.

Grades Tips

1. Free academic advising is offered at community colleges and it is a great way to plan for a successful future. A meeting can be set up by telephone, e-mail, or in person and is quick and painless.
2. When applying for college, you will need to get a transcript from your high school and the community college you are enrolled at for Running Start.
3. When applying for college, make sure to get your transcripts from community college early because it can take nearly a week to get the transcript order filled.