



Classroom norms set the tone of a class and provide expectations on how to behave towards each other and towards the material we study. Respecting these norms contributes to a learning environment for all involved. Here are some common classroom norms.

Formality: Formality doesn't have to mean stiff or rigid, but it is associated with discipline. Addressing your instructor and classmates with respect demonstrates your belief that you're engaged in important work.

Punctuality: Arrive on time. Instructors use their time sharing important information. If you are late, come in quietly and apologize afterwards to your instructor. Don't start putting bags away five minutes before class ends.

Responsibility: Instructors inform and answer questions, they don't entertain or supervise. It's a student's responsibility to be an active learner. Always check your instructor's syllabus for policies on standards, due dates, extensions, and absences.

Reliability: Students should prepare to listen actively, take notes, ask questions and fully participate in class discussions.

Civility: Students should respectfully share their opinions and listen to others with an open mind. Ideas are fair game for criticism, but not individuals.

Availability: Instructors view the learning of content as an important job. Remember that you should spend 2-3 hours studying for every hour in class before deciding on outside employment or committing to extracurriculars.

Capability: When requesting accommodations, access appropriate channels like the [Counseling and Psychological Services](#) office, or the [Disability Resource Center](#).

Agility: When taking online classes, think how you'd demonstrate the norms already listed: learn your instructor's preferences for use of camera, mic and chat. Ask about appropriate backgrounds, screen names and ways to make a comment.

Humility: Know when and how to ask for help. Most instructors care about their students, but they care about them as adults. Reach out to your instructor early as academic struggles come up or schedule to meet an [Academic Success Coach](#).