Reading a Syllabus

When Should I Read My Syllabus?

Reading the syllabus fully for each of your classes at the beginning of the semester is important. The syllabus gives you an understanding of the course, the professor's expectations, and learning goals. It is also beneficial to look through the syllabuss throughout the semester when you have questions about the course.

Other Policies and Procedures

Even though some sections of the syllabus are similar or the same, they are still important to read and understand. The plagiarism/academic honesty, accommodations, and inclusivity/discrimination/harassment policies are important to read and remember throughout the course. There is also a course description in every syllabus that tells you what the objectives and goals of the course are.

Due Dates & Exam Preparation

Put due dates into a planner at the beginning of the semester to help you stay caught up on weekly assignments and spread out the work for larger assignments. Knowing exam days can help you make a study plan to space it out instead of cramming. It can also help you schedule your exams through the Center for Accessibility and Disability Resources in advance.



What to Look For:

Professor's Information	\rightarrow	Office hours, preferred and required means of communication, and office location are important for connecting with your professor throughout the semester.
Course Objectives	\rightarrow	Keep tabs on the course objectives to keep track with what is happening in the class, and things you should remember
Grading System	\rightarrow	Know what the professor is expecting for each assignment. This information helps you know where to focus when studying for the class. This will also tell you late work and extra credit policies.
Class Schedule	\rightarrow	Put due dates, exam days, and holidays in a planner to make sure you don't miss a class or assignment. Attending class is very important for success.
Recommended/Required Reading & Materials		Know what books and materials you need for this class. Order, pick up, or get access to your books and materials as soon as possible so you don't miss important information or fall behind in class.