

# COLLEGE CORNER

## Quick Hints and Study Tips for College Success

(NAPSA)—For many, college academics can be a challenge. Often, students are away from home for the first time and are faced with managing increased independence and responsibility in both their social and academic lives.

Sometimes, students find that the strategies that brought them success in high school are not sufficient when it comes to mastering college-level material. College studies can demand a significant amount of independent work and to succeed, students have to be prepared to study on their own.

Studies show that students who study often and read their textbooks thoroughly earn better grades. To start a college career off right and enhance success, begin with these helpful study hints:

- Create a good learning space, free of distraction.
- Purchase the required text and make sure to have the right edition.
- Use the supplemental materials requested by your professors. Each instructor has chosen specific learning tools to be used in and out of the classroom. New learning tools can include Web sites, online learning sites or DVDs.

Some professors may not assign specific work from these materials. However, they hope students will use the tools to identify topics or skills that need improvement, then students can use the tools to work on those areas.

- Attend lectures, take notes and use the notes to amplify the material in the assigned reading.
- Visit your professor during office hours. If you have a hard time making office hours, look



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toward supplemental or integrated items that may have come with your textbook. Often, new Web access codes make it possible for students to access additional material and live online tutoring 24/7.

- Ask questions. This can be intimidating at first, but don't be shy. A less threatening approach would be to ask questions of an online tutor.

- Be responsible for your reading. In college, professors will expect students to read the textbook and may test on information not discussed in class, but covered in the reading.

- Take notes in your text.
- Keep up with your reading. The average student is assigned 250 pages of reading in a week. Don't wait until the day before an exam to start reading. Imagine waiting until the day of a race to begin training for it.

- Return to the beginning and repeat the process. Using these tips and practicing good study habits should make the transition to the college classroom a breeze.