



Three Tips for Acing¹ Online Classes

在线课上脱颖而出

By Danielle Wirsansky 郭若芥 译

随着疫情的持续蔓延，在可预见的未来，大部分美国高校依然保持在线上上课的状态。如何利用好在线课程，保持课堂上的专注，并取得良好的成绩，本文为你提出了几点建议。

With the **pandemic**² in full swing, most colleges and universities in the U.S. have **transitioned**³ almost all of their classes online for the foreseeable future. Some students **revel**⁴ in online classes. They love having the flexibility to work from home and to work in the hours they want to work without having a **commute**⁵ involved. Other students really struggle with online classes because they find working from home difficult, they learn better from in-person instruction or need a schedule to keep them disciplined. A number of students fall in between. They neither prefer nor dislike online classes, but they perhaps do not quite **thrive**⁶ in them.

No matter where you fall on the **spectrum**⁷ of preference for online classes, you can always find ways to do better and improve the way you go about your studies to help you learn the material better, stay focused, and get good grades. Read on for some tips for acing online classes!



Read the Syllabus⁸

It might seem pretty obvious or overly simple, but the very first thing you should do for any class is to read the syllabus. You would be surprised how many people do not actually look over the syllabus, or if they do, they don't read it very thoroughly. The syllabus is supposed to be your guide for the entire **semester**⁹. It tells you what you are doing, when, why, and how. It should tell you basically everything that you need to know for the class.

That is, if it is a well-written syllabus. Not every syllabus is well-written, but hopefully, yours is. Anytime you have a question about your schedule, check the syllabus. Anytime you have a question about an assignment, check the syllabus. How long does it need to be? What is the **prompt**¹⁰? Where do you find the materials for it? How do you turn it in?

Are there any **rigid**¹¹ **specifications**¹² for it? Check the syllabus! How do you contact the teacher? When are their office hours? Check the syllabus!

When you need to know something, do not blindly go through your online education **portal**¹³ clicking **tabs**¹⁴ or go ahead and email your professor. Wait until you have **scoured**¹⁵ through the syllabus for your answers. And if it is not there, then you can proceed. Just read through it and give yourself a heads-up of what is to come and the general knowledge of the class that you will need to be successful.

Note the Deadlines

In an online class, it is incredibly easy to let deadlines creep up on you or even pass you by before you even know it. No one will be reminding you about it in class unless you have live lectures, and even then they might not. And if you are not watching or attending the lecture **attentively**¹⁶, a professor's reminder could easily be missed.

Make sure that you note the deadlines. However you need to do that or find doing that to be most effective, do it. Find writing



things down in your planner most effective? Do it. Making reminders on your phone? Do it. Filling it out in your online calendar? Do it.

Keeping all those important dates in your head is not the best way to **navigate**¹⁷ your online class, especially if you are taking multiple classes. You do not want to fail a class because you never turned anything in. Otherwise, what was the point?

Ask Questions

While strategy number one told you that you should not immediately email your professor with a question, that was in regards to asking questions that could be answered by the syllabus. However, you should not be afraid to message your professor with thoughtful, **relevant**¹⁸ questions and comments. Did you enjoy a particular topic your professor introduced and you would like to know more about it? After further reflection, did you find that you had a question that you felt the lecture, the textbook, or even googling did not answer? Do you have a question about the field at large your professor is engaged in rather than the class? Email them!



Especially if you need extra support, do not be afraid to email your professors and ask for the help that you need. Their job is to support you and answer your questions. Professors do not actively want their students to fail, so if they can reasonably help you out, they will. And connecting with your professor provides a face to the name, which helps to **humanize**¹⁹ you in the professor's eyes.

Online classes can be tough. But knowing that and preparing for it is half the battle. Using these tips and strategies will help you navigate the world of online learning and keep your GPA and **morale**²⁰ up even when the rest of the events of the world might be bringing you down.

From Uloop.com, Online Marketplace for College Life.

Photos by Study in the USA

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. ace [eis] (aced; acing) vt. <美口> 在(考试等)中得高分 | 的; 严格的 |
| 2. pandemic [pæn'demɪk] n. 大流行病; 流行; 蔓延 | 12. specification [ˌspesɪfɪ'keɪʃən] n. 详述; 明确说明; [常作~s] 规格; 明细单; 详细计划 |
| 3. transition [træn'sɪʒən] vi. <主北美> 使经历转变过程; 过渡 | 13. portal ['pɔ:təl] n. 门, 入口; 【计】门户网站 |
| 4. revel ['revel] vi. 狂欢; 纵乐; 陶醉 | 14. tab [tæb] n. 标签; 签条; 突耳; 凸舌; 账单 |
| 5. commute [kə'mju:t] n. <美口> (上下班的) 乘公共车辆往返; 乘车往返的路程 | 15. scour ['skaʊə] vt. 四处搜索 |
| 6. thrive [θraɪv] vi. 繁荣, 兴旺; 茁壮成长 | 16. attentively [ə'tentɪvli] ad. 注意地; 聚精会神地; 周到地 |
| 7. spectrum ['spektrəm] n. 系列; 范围; 幻象 | 17. navigate ['nævɪgeɪt] vt.&vi. 导航, 航行; <口> 小心翼翼地引领 |
| 8. syllabus ['sɪləbəs] n. 教学大纲, 摘要 | 18. relevant ['relɪvənt] a. 有关的; 贴切的; 有重大关系的 |
| 9. semester [sɪ'mestə] n. 学期 | 19. humanize ['hju:mənaɪz] vt. 使更适合人; 使更人道 |
| 10. prompt [prompt] n. 催促; 激励; 怂恿; 提示 | 20. morale [mɔ're:l] n. 士气, 斗志 |
| 11. rigid ['rɪdʒɪd] a. 坚硬的; 僵硬的, 刻板的; 严厉 | |

\$1,000 奖学金赠送抽奖

想帮助你早日实现在美国学习的梦想。

帮助学生支付在美国接受教育的费用

- ★ 参加抽奖的步骤很简单
- ★ 无需提交自述短文
- ★ 所有申请入学的学生均可参加

只需回答几个问题并填写您的联系信息即可。抽奖将于2021年12月举行。

要符合获得奖学金的资格, 申请人必须完整填写并提交在线调查问卷。来自Study in the USA, Inc.或附属子公司的当前客户、员工或其家属(配偶、同居伴侣、父母、祖父母、子女、继子女、孙子女、兄弟或姐妹)的奖学金申请将不被接受。奖学金必须全部用于与学校有关的费用支出, 同时获得这些资金者应对资金的使用负责。所授予的奖学金金额是最终金额, 不会再提供额外资金。申请截止至2021年11月。每户家庭均可参加抽奖。



广告