

HyFlex Tips for Success

Do

1. DO plan to attend class when you can.
 - Peer interaction is invaluable. (They may know things you don't.)
2. DO turn in assignments ASAP regardless.
 - More time for peer feedback.
 - Time to revise, means a potentially better grade.
3. DO make sure that you have all the necessary plug-ins for your computer to play the videos or audio files that are recorded during the live class.
4. DO take advantage of the HyFlex environment if you can't drive into the city for class. There is a lot to gain from the online learning opportunity.
 - After all, this is instructional technology.
5. DO use the online assignments even if you do attend the live class.
6. DO use headphones if possible during online classes.
 - It helps to minimize the echo.
7. DO try completing online materials during the normally scheduled time.
 - If you already have the time blocked out, then you'll get it done and won't have to try to fit it into your busy schedule later.
8. DO plan ahead for online classes.
 - Try to go through all the motions while in the classroom to see how it will work from home.

Don't

1. DON'T wait till the assignment is due to post it.
 - You can't take advantage of peer feedback.
 - You can't revise it to get a better grade.
2. DON'T keep your microphone on during online classes if you aren't speaking.
 - It creates a lot of feedback and can disrupt the class.
3. DON'T wait to do online work for the night before a scheduled class.
 - It's often more work than you think.
4. DON'T try to attend an online class if you aren't sure about how to use the technology.
 - Get one of your peers to help you in class first.
 - It takes away from the real learning opportunity because too much time is spent helping everyone get set up.
5. DON'T let the fact that you aren't attending the in-person instruction fool you into thinking that it's ok to procrastinate.
 - It'll all pile up before you know it, and you'll be pulling all-nighters to finish your semester.

6. DON'T be the last to join an online learning session if there are limited seats. (You may find yourself left out.)

General Advice

When trying to determine if attending online is for you, consider how you feel about working on assignments on your own. If you tend to be a loner, then by all means, try an online class assignment day instead of driving to campus. If you are the type of person who likes meeting new people and sharing ideas with others, then definitely try to attend class in person more.

There is a lot to gain from in-class interaction with your peers. Often they have ideas that you may not have heard before, or they can give you valuable feedback to make your project better than it otherwise would have been. (This was definitely the case with my projects.) Others can also potentially ask you questions about your work that helps you to develop it into a more complete work. They may ask questions that you might not have considered, or they can shed light on holes in your theories.

In a HyFlex environment, you get the opportunity to choose whether to attend in person or not. Often if I didn't have the necessary time to drive across town to get to class, I would just listen from home. Or just plan to listen to the lecture after it is posted. Try the assignments and read the book as though you were attending in person every day. It's easy to forget that you have class when you aren't attending in-person.

When online instruction is given, where it's fully interactive, treat it as you would a corporate conference call.

- Mute when you aren't speaking
- Stay on topic
- Gather your thoughts before you begin speaking
- Don't monopolize the session
- Do take advantage of the technology and share your desktop, or a website that others might really appreciate knowing about.