Have a Successful First Quarter (& First Year)

There are many resources on campus to help you be successful. Some of these include:

- Modified Supplemental Instruction
- The Educational Opportunity Program
- Services for Transfer and Re-Entry Students
- Counseling and Psychological Services
- The Disability Resource Center

Refer to our “Resources and Resource Centers” video for more information. Here are some quick tips to take your success into your own hands.

If you want to succeed and become a more active learner, you need to attend class. Make sure to come prepared and be on time. Sitting near the front and participating will help you to actively engage with the course and the material. Communicate with your instructors to build relationships with them and let them know when you have issues or questions. In group projects, be sure to communicate and participate to ensure the success of your group.

Staying organized is an essential part of being successful. Using a planner or agenda will help you keep track of upcoming deadlines. You should use a digital calendar to plan your schedule out. You should also...
keep and carry around all papers that contain class information in folders or a 3-ring binder. Make sure to keep your study space neat and clean to help you focus on your studies.

Take notes in class to help you pay attention and be an active listener. Make sure to recognize and highlight important information. You should review your notes as soon as possible to keep information fresh in your mind and clarify any confusion. If you miss class you need to make sure to get the notes from someone. Some classes are recorded and uploaded online, so if you miss class or if something is unclear you can watch the recording to review. If this is the case for your class, your instructor will give you the login to use at webcast.ucsc.edu.

Managing your time well is essential for your success. Refer to our “How-to Manage Your Time” video for information about managing your time.