

ACADEMIC SUCCESS WORKSHOP



International Student Orientation Program
San Francisco State University

I. Tools For Success

- Bulletin
- Class Schedule
- Calendar
- Highlighter
- Gator Aid Student Handbook



II. Understand the System

- Read everything - mail, syllabus, course descriptions
- Join the OIP e-mail list (OIPNEWS)
- Check “My SFSU” (www.sfsu.edu/student) on a regular basis to make sure that class schedule, grades, etc. are as you expect





- Ask questions
- Do things through official channels - add, drop, withdraw, address change, etc.
- Never assume that SFSU will do things in exactly the same way as was done at your previous U.S. school (adding/dropping classes, tuition refunds, etc.)
- Learn from your mistakes



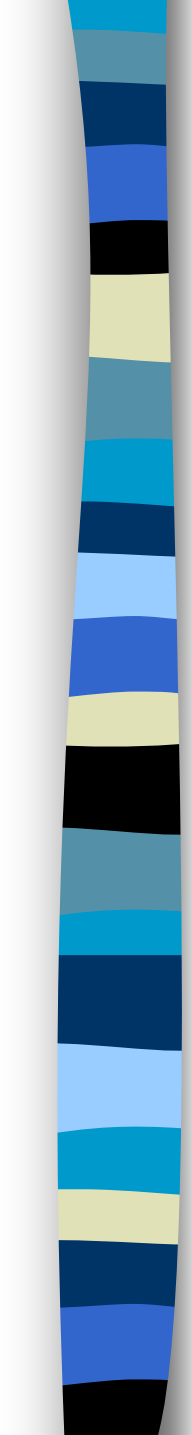
Understand the Grading System

- A (4.0) = Excellent
- B (3.0) = Good
- C (2.0) = Satisfactory
- D (1.0) = Poor/less than adequate
- F (0.0) = Failure
- CR/NC = Credit/No Credit
- I = Incomplete
- IC = Incomplete Charged
- W = Withdrawal
- WU = Unauthorized Withdrawal



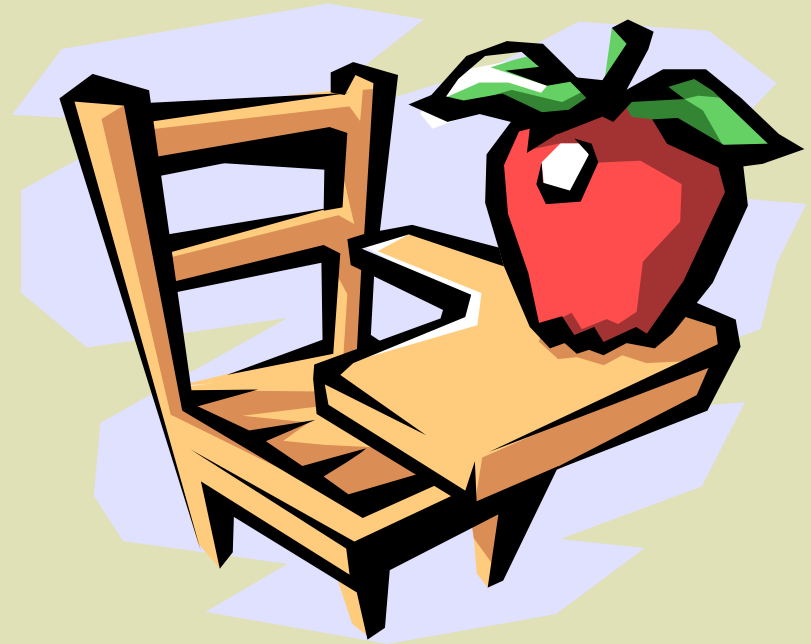
Understand the Course Numbering System

- **1-99:** Remedial Courses
- **100-299:** Lower Division
- **300-699:** Upper Division
- **700-899:** Graduate Courses
- **900-999:** Joint Doctoral Courses

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- **Know Resources/Tutorial Services:**
 - **Learning Assistance Center (LAC)**
 - **Community Access and Retention Program (CARP)**
 - **Free computer labs**
 - **Make & keep copies of everything**
 - **Changing class schedule/major is ok, sometimes necessary**

III. Successful Behavior in the Classroom

- Attend class!
- Sit in front
- Be prepared
- Participate
- Learn to take good notes



- **Understand the syllabus**
- **Ask questions**
- **Get the name, phone number & e-mail address of at least one (successful) student**



IV. Successful Behavior Outside the Classroom

- Visit professor during office hours
- Learn from mistakes (review tests when returned)
- Find best way to study (alone, in groups, may depend on the course)





- Allow Enough Time (Time Management)
- Learn Academic Skills:
(<http://www.sfsu.edu/~testing>)
- Attend Academic Skills Workshops sponsored by SFSU Testing Office



Essentially, If You Go To:

<https://www.sfsu.edu/student> and log in the name/PAC number, you'll get to the "My SFSU" page that shows the choices available to all students, including:

- Semester Schedule of Classes
- Print-Out Unofficial Transcripts
- Address Change/Update
- Test scores
- International Student Info Update Page
- And Much More!

**Good Luck With Your Studies!
We Wish You Much Success!**

