Your College Success

Practice self-discipline and develop time management skills.

Use the Career Center to explore jobs that fit your personality and interests.

Volunteer. You'll acquire valuable skills that you can develop and then use on your resume.

Get a student job on campus. It will amaze you how the small things you'll learn will help you be successful.

Learn how to calculate your GPA.

If you are receiving financial aid, avoid too many withdraws (W's) and know how a low GPA can negatively impact your ability to receive financial aid.

Don't miss the first class meeting. It sets the tone for the entire term.

Use study groups which are opportunities to make friends and to get better grades.

Introduce yourself to your instructors prior to the first day of class. It shows initiative.

Talk to alumni; they can be a great source of advice and counsel because they've experienced HCC.

At the beginning of the semester, circle the class drop dates on your calendar. It is your responsibility to drop. Don't just stop attending and end up with an unnecessary falling grade. Remember, your transcript is permanent and will follow you wherever you go.

Don't be afraid to seek an instructor's advice after class.

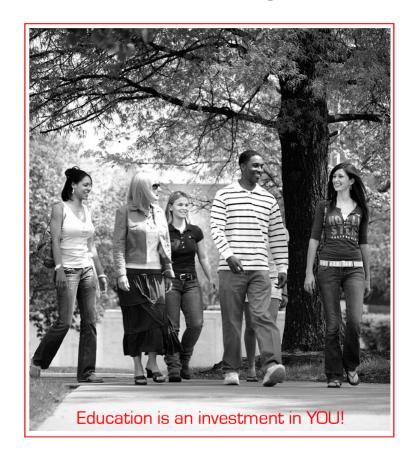
Welcome to the HCC Community where learning happens both in and out of the classroom

Jason Warren, Dean of Student Affairs
Call 707-3801

Provided as a student success initiative of the HCC Office of the Dean of Student Services

Maxims

for College Success





Your College Success

■ ■ Your College Success

Be curious. Ask questions!

Stay informed. "Nobody told me." is not an excuse!

Attend a New Student Orientation session.

Realize, in college, you will be treated like an adult; no one is going to make you study or go to class.

Check your student email regularly for information on scholarship announcements, job opportunities, student activities, important deadlines, etc.

Learn to use Student Self-Service. You can easily access your class schedule, register for classes, view grades, check financial aid, and view account balances from the Student Self-Service feature.

Get to know the HCC website www.hopkinsville.kctcs.edu and the KCTCS website www.kctcs.edu.

If you have problems, talk to someone...an advisor, instructor, staff member, or a fellow student.

Get involved! Join a club. Make personal connections. Research overwhelmingly shows that college students who are involved in campus life are more likely to persist and graduate.

Develop mentors; you'll be amazed how useful they will be to you short-term and long-term.

Take advantage of free, on-campus topic workshops (test-taking strategies, resume writing, interviewing, note-taking, study habits, etc.).

Use tutoring services whenever possible.

If you are planning to transfer, make contact with an advisor at the four -year university as early as possible to discuss the courses you plan to take at HCC.

Remember that it is more advantageous to complete an associate degree and then transfer it as a block. Otherwise, 4-year universities might "pick and choose" how the classes transfer.

Be careful of loan debt! Loans are there to help you achieve your educational goals. But you should be careful not to build so much debt that the job you will get will not afford you the opportunity to pay it back. We don't want you to face an insurmountable amount of debt when you leave HCC.

If you feel like you need to drop a class, don't be afraid to schedule a meeting with your instructor first.

Know the Refund Calendar dates for 100%, 50%, 0% refund.

Don't be afraid to drop a class if necessary, but be aware of the process and important deadlines.

If circumstances arise where you think you might have to drop out of school, talk to your instructor first to explore the many options that might be available to you.

File a M.A.P. (My Academic Plan) and review it with your advisor regularly. If you have a written goal, odds are greater that you will accomplish it.

Take GE 100 "Introduction to College" and GE 101 "Strategies for Academic Success" classes. You'll be amazed at how beneficial these courses are for a new student.

Register early each semester/term before classes fill up so you have the broadest selection of meeting dates and times.

Take at least one class during the summer. Students who remain continuously enrolled are more likely to persist and graduate. Avoid "stopping-out" whenever possible; you lose momentum.

Buy used books and become knowledgeable about the Bookstore's book buy-back procedures.

Keep your receipts, copies of drops, adds, and anything else that you had to get official permission to do.

Read all class syllabi thoroughly. A syllabus is a contract between you and your instructor!

Avoid taking online classes your first semester in college. Online classes are excellent, but they require a much different learning style and first-time students typically benefit from the on-campus class experience first.

Go to class. Avoid missing classes or arriving late. Just because a professor doesn't take attendance doesn't mean skipping class or being tardy won't affect your grade.