

## HIGH SCHOOL VS. COLLEGE

### HOW IS COLLEGE DIFFERENT FROM HIGH SCHOOL

#### HIGH SCHOOL CLASSES

It is mandatory and usually free.

Follow a school-directed schedule and proceed from one class to another.

General education classes are dictated by state/district requirements.

Typically a school year is 36 weeks long; some classes extend over both semesters. Summer classes may be offered but are not used to accelerate graduation.

Classes are usually mandatory and monitored closely.

Classes generally have no more than 30-35 students.

Text books are typically provided at little or no expense.

Guidance is provided for students so that they will be aware of graduation requirements.

#### COLLEGE CLASSES

It is voluntary and there is a cost – tuition.

Individual students must manage their own time and schedules.

Classes based on field study; requirements vary, and number of units may vary.

Academic year is divided into three quarters. Courses are offered fall, winter and spring quarters. Summer quarter may be used to accelerate graduation.

Attendance policies may vary with each instructor. Lack of attendance will impact performance.

Classes may have 100 or more students.

Textbooks can be expensive. An anticipated range for a full time student is (\$200-\$400 per quarter).

Graduation requirements vary for different fields of study. Student is responsible for monitoring and seeking advice.

#### HIGH SCHOOL STUDYING

Students may study outside of class as little as 1-2 hours per week, and this may be mostly last-minute test preparation.

Students seldom need to read anything more than once, and sometimes listening in class is enough.

Students are expected to read short assignments that are discussed and re-taught, in class.

#### COLLEGE STUDYING

Students need to study at least 2-3 hours outside of class for each hour in class.

Students need to review class notes and text materials regularly. Use time between classes carefully.

Students are assigned substantial amounts of reading and writing which may not be directly addressed in class, but may be covered on tests.

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#### HIGH SCHOOL TESTING

Frequent, covering small amounts of material

Make-up tests are often available

Test dates can be arranged to avoid conflicts with other events.

Frequently conducts review sessions emphasizing important concepts prior to test

#### COLLEGE TESTING

Testing is usually infrequent and may be cumulative, covering large amounts of material. A particular course may have only 2 or 3 tests in a quarter.

Make-up tests are seldom an option and may have to be requested.

Usually, scheduled tests are without regard to other demands.

Faculty rarely offer review sessions, and when they do, they expect students to come prepared with questions.

#### HIGH SCHOOL GRADES

Given for most assigned work

Good homework grades may assist in raising overall grade when test grades are low.

Initial test grades, especially when low, may not have adverse effect on grade.

Graduation requirements may be met with a grade of D or higher.

#### COLLEGE GRADES

May not be provided for all assigned work.

Tests and papers provide the majority of the grade.

Grades on tests and major papers usually provide most of the course grade.

Requirements may be met only if the student's average meets the departmental standards.