

## Advice from Faculty Podcast Transcript

00:00:09 Crystal

Welcome to IVCC's podcast. My name is Crystal Credi, the Administrative Assistant for Student Services. Today's podcast is advice for students from our faculty. Thanks to all the faculty on the show today.

00:00:21 Crystal Credi

What is some advice that you have for students?

00:00:25 Gina Elias

Hi this is Gina Elias and I teach Computer Science, so that would be programming and networking. The first word of advice, please take it, is to see your instructor during their office hours or by appointment. Many of you are not used to seeing your teachers outside of class, and you think it might be an inconvenience to contact them. It's not. We're here for you. We have office hours 5 hours per week. And if that is not convenient, send that person an email and ask if you can Zoom for 15 minutes or a half an hour just to get things set up. By reaching out for help. You are not behind the curve, or dumb, or not getting it. You're doing what's right for your education. You just need a little bit of help to get over a hump or to understand a topic...and that's totally normal, and you need to take advantage of it. Second thing, if you don't feel comfortable reaching out to your instructor, please be aware that IVCC has free Peer Tutoring. Take advantage of that. In this pandemic, we're doing that via Zoom, in person, and also over the phone. So, please contact our peer tutoring to get the help that you need also.

00:01:49 Cory Tomasson

This is Cory Tomasson, and I teach speech, so public speaking as well as intercultural communication. I think that that with the format that we have now, there are two crucial elements that students really need to focus on. One in this style of this format of education, motivation is absolutely going to be key. When you aren't in a classroom face to face 2 - 3 - 4 times a week and interacting with that instructor with all of the assignments that are due and things like that, there really is a level of self-motivation that has to be present. So don't wait until the last minute to do things. Work on things as you're getting them so that we're not at the end of the semester and everything is piling up. The information you're gathering generally builds on each other from chapter to chapter, unit to unit, and so getting that done in a timely manner is really going to help. I know it's hard to do sometimes. You're sitting at home. You're laying on your bed, on your couch, at whatever time. It's convenient for people to have that freedom, but at the same time, sometimes that can be detrimental because there isn't that exact time where you need to log on. So, I really think motivation is key. The second portion of that, which is even more important, is communication. Keeping in contact with your instructor. Knowing what exactly is due, what the expectations are. Again, for many of the classes, it's strictly on line. There may not be any face to face, synchronous, Zoom...anything like that, and so there can be some miscommunication there. And you can't clear things up because you're just typing short messages to each other, emails. Make sure you are doing your part to communicate with them any questions so that they can fully explain something. Other students may be having the same issue...if an assignment isn't exactly clear. As instructors, we think we go through things and have everything worked out. We know what we're trying to say. Sometimes it doesn't come across the same way. And if you're just reading it, instead of having

that conversation, it makes it more difficult. So if I was in a class and somebody could raise their hands and say, could you explain this to me? Everybody is going to hear that. Where if you just assume exactly what I'm saying or you are a little confused and continue and you're doing it wrong, other people might be too so. Please keep that line of communication present at all times, whether it's an email, a phone call Zoom, quick Zoom with one person, office hours. Make sure that you are keeping in contact with your instructor and up to date on all the information. So those are the two things that I would say are the most crucial things in this type of format of teaching.

00:04:45 Chris Jauch

My name is Chris Jauch, and I teach in the Workforce Development Division. And I teach Office Professional. OK? As far as advice for the students, check your student email regularly. Students aren't doing this, and this is how the college and your instructors communicate with you. Review your syllabus for assignments, and develop a time management strategy. Most of the syllabi from your instructors have got your entire calendar for the semester in there, so you know what to do and when it's due. Get yourself some time management to ensure that you're going to be doing this on time. Communicate with your professor. They're here to help you. OK, but they can't help you if you don't talk to them. Take advantage of office hours. That is the greatest way to get one on one help from your professor.

00:05:42 Nancy McDonnell

Hi, my name is Nancy McDonnell. I teach the Cybersecurity classes within IVCC. Some of my best advice for students right now would be to keep a calendar...even if it's post-its on your desk or table...so you know when things are due, what the topics are that's coming up, when you need to start an assignment to finish it. And stay in contact with your instructor. The instructors love to talk to you. If you're struggling...if you're confused by something...please contact them. Reach out, and also don't hesitate to tell them if something is difficult for you in class. Let them know so maybe they can change up how they're presenting. Tell them what you're really getting in class...that it came across well. All of this is new to everybody...how we're teaching right now. So, we want to make it best for the students. Make sure you stay in contact and keep a schedule.

00:06:42 Crystal Credi

Thank you again to all the faculty that participated today. Here are some tips from IVCC alumni that was gathered while they were students here.

When you feel like quitting, remember why you started.

Your grade depends on your study habits.

Study hard. Don't wait until the last minute.

Don't be afraid to ask questions.

Plan ahead. Use a planner, and write down all of the assignments that are due.

Remember, there are resources available to help you succeed: Peer Tutoring, the Writing Center, and the Library. Reach out if you need assistance. Check out IVCC's SoundCloud Channel for additional podcasts. If you have any topic suggestions, feel free to send me an email. Thank you for listening.