

Classroom Conduct

The academic classroom is shared by people of many different viewpoints, backgrounds, ages, experiences, potentials, and abilities. In order to maintain appropriate ethical and professional behavior in the classroom, please follow these guidelines.

- The student's top priority is to learn. An essential part of the learning process is **class attendance**. Every class meeting is important – new concepts are discussed, various viewpoints on the subject are expressed, concepts are practiced in class. Whether one feels prepared or not, it is very valuable to attend every class.
- Each professor has his/her own attendance policy on the number of absences allowed. Please read each course syllabus carefully at the beginning of the semester to understand your responsibility to be in class. **Excessive absences will be an obstacle to your success** in passing the course with a grade of C or better. The C grade is the minimum for transferring credits to another college. It is the student's responsibility to be informed of attendance policies and to act accordingly.
- **Punctuality** is the student's professional responsibility. A pattern of lateness is inappropriate, and early departure on a regular, unexplained basis is equally disrespectful and disruptive to the class.
- **Respect for your professor and for your classmates is of utmost importance.** Any disagreements must be handled without criticism, sarcasm, personal attacks, or attempts to monopolize class discussion.
- Please **raise your hand to be recognized** before speaking. Any chatting while the professor or a classmate is speaking, is distracting, disruptive, and disrespectful.
- **Please turn off pagers and cell phones while in class.** If you are expecting an emergency call, please inform your teacher prior to the start of class and set your pager or cell phone on silent mode. Receiving routine personal calls while in class is inappropriate.
- The student who needs **academic accommodation**, such as a note taker, special seating, recording the classes, or receiving assistance from the Access program for test taking under special circumstances, should discuss these needs with the professor during the first two weeks of the semester.
- **Academic Honesty:** The Community College of Rhode Island has a strict policy regarding academic honesty. Each student is responsible to do his/her own homework, research papers, class projects, and tests/exams. Along with this, works used as references, whether internet websites, books, periodical articles, must be appropriately cited. The penalty for academic dishonesty – cheating, plagiarizing – ranges from a grade of F on the particular assignment or test/exam to a grade of F for the entire course and beyond.