

How to connect with instructors on-campus

Communicating and building connections with your instructors may help you achieve desired levels of **academic achievement** and a stronger understanding of course content.

Tips for connecting with instructors during on-campus learning:

Find your seat

Think **intentionally** about where you would like to sit in class. If you sit in the first few rows of the class, this makes it easier for your instructor to see you.

If your class doesn't have rows, try to find a space that allows you to participate to the extent you are comfortable. Sitting in a similar place for each class can help the instructor **recognize** you, especially in large classrooms.

Give a short greeting

When you enter class, greet your instructor with a quick 'Hi, how are you?'. Small talk is a great way for you to **interact** with your instructor in a more informal context.

Attend office hours

Office hours provide you with an **opportunity** to speak with your instructor individually. You can use office hours to do the following:

- Discuss an assignment
- Ask for clarification on a concept or idea discussed in lecture
- Express **gratitude** by thanking the instructor for their time and discussing what you appreciated in the course



If you and a classmate have similar questions, consider going to office hours together.

Participation

If your instructor encourages in-class interaction, try to participate **at least once** every class. If you ask for a reference letter later on, participating in class will give your instructor a **stronger understanding** of your skills, interests, and academic potential.



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