

Your In-class Focus, Grit, and Academic Investment Grade: The Criteria

In the last 12 weeks of this semester, we're going to be hitting your nonverbal skills a little harder. These are the kinds of things your college professors and future bosses will use to assess you, but they might never vocalize it (I found this out the hard way). Luckily for you, I'm happy to vocalize these skills!

Examples of Focus:

- Using reading time to read.
- Using writing time to write.
- Participating in small group and large group discussions.
- Avoiding side conversations.
- Refraining from using your phone or computer for non-academic purposes (games, texting, etc.).

Example of Grit:

- Trying your hardest to stay up with the reading, even when you fall behind.
- Going above and beyond to make sure you're always challenging yourself. If you finish an assignment early, open up Quizlet on your phone and run through the vocabulary words, or read ahead in the book.
- Redoing an assignment until you feel like you've learned something from it.
- Refraining from using your phone or computer for non-academic purposes (games, texting, etc.).

Academic Investment:

- Being on time to class (effective Week 7, tardies and unexcused absences will result in lost points in this category).
- Working up until the bell rings instead of hanging out by the door.
- Not taking a potty break more than once a week in this class.
- Working hard on the warm-ups.
- Having everything you need for class (charged computer, book, etc.).
- Asking me for help when you need it.
- Refraining from using your phone or computer for non-academic purposes (games, texting, etc.)

Note: Because I'd like you to manage these for yourself, I'm not necessarily going to walk around and police you. The goal here is for you to become conscious of your own in-class focus, grit, and academic investment. I believe every single one of you can achieve this.