Academic Success at Ohio State

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So here you are at Ohio State. . .
Why are you here?
To earn a degree...
To find your dream job...
To make friends. . .
To conduct research and contribute to your field...
PARTAAAAAAAAAAAY!!!
To explore America...
What does it mean:

To get an education?

To become a scholar?

. . . How do you get there from here?
During your first semester:

• Expect things to be different from in your home country
  • Teaching styles
  • Learning styles
  • Types of and frequency of assignments
  • Try to be open to new ways of thinking and doing

• Expect to have a transition period

• “I am feeling ______________. Is that normal?” Probably!

• You will make mistakes. That’s okay! Try to learn from them.
In the American classroom:

• Expect to have to talk in class
• Expect to be asked to share your own, original ideas
• Expect to have assignments throughout the semester
  • Your final exam alone will not determine your final grade
• Expect to be given grade points for:
  • class attendance
  • class participation
• Expect to do a lot of reading
• Expect to do a lot of writing
• Expect there to be references to things you’re not familiar with (American TV shows, etc.). Don’t be afraid to ask questions of your teacher or a fellow student!
Developing Relationships

• Get to know your professors and instructors
  • Go to office hours. No really, go to office hours!
  • Feeling connected to faculty and staff in your academic department will lead to greater success, and happiness, inside and outside the classroom.
  • As a teacher, it is easier to give a low grade to a student you don’t know personally.
  • Professors are more likely to suspect misconduct from a student they don’t know personally.
  • You may need a letter of recommendation one day!
  • They may help find you a job one day!

• Get to know your fellow students
  • Challenge yourself to start a conversation with an American student before or after class
E-mail Etiquette: Quick Tips

• Use appropriate greetings and closings
  • Dear Dr. Johnson, / Dear Mr. Lee,
  • Sincerely, / Kind Regards, / Best wishes,
• Use the appropriate title of the person you’re writing
  • Dr. Zhang, Ms. Evans, etc.
• Sign your full name, and give your campus ID if necessary
• Use capital letters when appropriate
  • Beginning of sentences
  • Names
• Read through what you’ve written before sending
  • Understand that it may take 24 hours or more for faculty/staff to respond.
E-mail Etiquette: Quick Tips

• Example of a great e-mail:

Dear Dr. Fox,

I have a question about this week’s homework assignment. Can I please make an appointment to come meet with you? I am available any day after 4 p.m.

Thank you very much!

Best regards,
Jun Li
500000007
E-mail Etiquette: Quick Tips

• Example of a unsuccessful e-mail:

i am confused about the homework. when can I see you?
Academic Resources for International Students

• Office of International Affairs events and programs
  • [http://oia.osu.edu/workshops-and-events.html](http://oia.osu.edu/workshops-and-events.html)

• Academic Success Series workshops
  • “Building Confidence in Participating in Discussions and Preparing Class Presentations”
    • Friday, August 14, 1:30 – 2:30 p.m., 122 Oxley Hall
  • “Communicating with Faculty and Instructors”
    • Tuesday, August 18, 1 – 2 p.m., 122 Oxley Hall
  • “Preparing Effective Papers”
    • Friday, August 21, 12 – 1 p.m., 122 Oxley Hall
  • “Developing Effective Study Skills”
    • Monday, August 24, 3 – 4 p.m., 300 Younkin Success Center

• These are other workshops held throughout the semester as well
Academic Resources for International Students

• Dennis Learning Center
  • [http://dennislearningcenter.osu.edu/](http://dennislearningcenter.osu.edu/)

• The Dennis Learning Center provides academic learning services and support to undergraduate, graduate, and professional students from all academic backgrounds. The major services include courses, workshops, and appointments. Online student resources are also offered.

• The center provides instruction and support to develop students’ learning and motivation strategies, including note taking, learning from text, exam preparation, test-taking, time management, and self-regulation.
Academic Resources for International Students

• The Writing Center
  • [https://cstw.osu.edu/writing-center](https://cstw.osu.edu/writing-center)
  • One-on-one assistance
  • Writing groups
    • For international students (undergraduate and graduate)
    • Other groups: dissertation writing, personal statement and applications, etc.
  • Great on-line resources
    • Many handouts and web links to help students improve writing skills
Academic Resources for International Students

• Academic Preparation Website:
  
  • NEW INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS' GUIDE TO OHIO STATE ACADEMIC CULTURE
  
  • http://u.osu.edu/academicintro
The Code of Student Conduct

- **Every** student at The Ohio State University is expected to read, understand and follow the Code of Student Conduct.
- The Office of Student Judicial Affairs and the Committee on Academic Misconduct does not consider “ignorance of the Code” as an acceptable excuse for academic misconduct.
- [http://studentlife.osu.edu/csc/](http://studentlife.osu.edu/csc/)
Academic Misconduct

• Academic Misconduct is any activity that compromises the academic integrity of the University’s educational and academic process

• Academic Conduct is in part culturally determined
  – Expectations at Ohio State may be different from those in your home country
  – Consider
    ✓ When is it okay to help a friend with an assignment?
    ✓ When it is appropriate to incorporate another person’s words or ideas into your own work?
Academic Misconduct

• Examples include:
  – Cheating
  – Plagiarism
  – Falsification in creating assignments, reports, results, etc.
  – Alteration of grades, academic records or forms
  – Unauthorized collaboration
  – Copying another student’s work
  – Using unauthorized materials during a test
  – Paying another student to complete assignments
  – Not following course guidelines or policies
The Code of Student Conduct

- The code of conduct outlines what *not* to do.
- But more importantly, think about what you are here *to do*:
  - Get an education
  - Learn new things
  - Explore new ideas
  - Make scholarly contributions to your field
- Have confidence in yourself as a student. Don’t be afraid to take risks.
Meaning of Plagiarism

- Plagiarism is the representation of another's work or ideas as one's own
- It includes the **unacknowledged** word-for-word use and/or paraphrasing of another person's work, and/or the **unacknowledged** use of another person's ideas
Proper Citations

• Example of Proper Citation
  – The correct way to incorporate another author’s work into your own is by putting *quotation marks* (" ") around the cited passage, and by *acknowledging* the other author:
    - Ohio State students are known for their school spirit. World-renowned Ohio State historian Brutus Buckeye, in his book *Why I Love Ohio State*, confirms: “OSU has the most enthusiastic football fans in the whole world.” (Buckeye, 144). Other historians have also noted this fact.
  – In the bibliography at the end of your paper you will also include the full citation for the book.
Use of Sources in a Presentation

► The Original Source:

Coffee

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

Coffee is a brewed beverage prepared from the roasted or baked seeds of several species of an evergreen shrub of the genus Coffea. The two most common sources of coffee beans are the highly regarded Coffee arabica, and the "robusta" form of the hardier Coffee canephora. The latter is resistant to the coffee leaf rust (Hemileia vastatrix), but has a more bitter taste. Coffee plants are cultivated in more than 70 countries, primarily in equatorial Latin America, Southeast Asia, and Africa. Once ripe, coffee "berners" are picked, processed and dried to yield the seeds inside. The seeds are then roasted to varying degrees, depending on the desired flavor, before being ground and brewed to create coffee.

Coffee is slightly acidic (pH 5.0–5.4) and can have a stimulating effect on humans because of its caffeine content. It is one of the most popular drinks in the world. It can be prepared and presented in a variety of ways.

The use of coffee in human health has been a subject of many studies; however, results have varied in terms of coffee's relative benefit. The majority of recent research suggests that moderate coffee consumption is benign or mildly beneficial in healthy adults. However, the excessive use of coffee may increase the risk of heart disease.

Coffee cultivation first took place in southern Arabia; the earliest credible evidence of coffee drinking appears in the middle of the 15th century in the Sufi shrines of Yemen. In East Africa and Yemen, coffee was used in native religious ceremonies. But these ceremonies conflicted with the beliefs of the Christian church, the Ethiopian Church banned the secular consumption of coffee until the reign of Emperor Menelik II. The beverage was also banned in Ottoman Turkey during the 17th century for political reasons and was associated with rebellious political activities in Europe.

An important export commodity, coffee was the top agricultural export for twelve countries in 2004, and it was the world's seventh-largest legal agricultural export by value in 2005. Green (unroasted) coffee is one of the most traded agricultural commodities in the world. Some controversy is associated with coffee cultivation and its impact on the environment. Consequently, organic coffee is an expanding market.
Coffee

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

This article is about the beverage, which comes in many forms. For the seed from which it is made, see Coffee bean. For other uses, see Coffee (disambiguation).

Coffee is a brewed beverage prepared from the roasted or baked seeds of several species of an evergreen shrub of the genus Coffea. The two most common sources of coffee beans are the highly regarded Coffea arabica, and the "robusta" form of the hardier Coffea canephora. The latter is resistant to the coffee leaf rust (Hemileia vastatrix), but has a more bitter taste. Coffee plants are cultivated in more than 70 countries, primarily in equatorial Latin America, Southeast Asia, and Africa. Once ripe, coffee "berries" are picked, processed and dried to yield the seeds inside. The seeds are then roasted to varying degrees, depending on the desired flavor, before being ground and brewed to create coffee.

Coffee is slightly acidic (pH 5.0–5.1) and can have a stimulating effect on humans because of its caffeine content. It is one of the most popular drinks in the world. It can be prepared and presented in a variety of ways. The effect of coffee on human health has been a subject of many studies; however, results have varied in terms of coffee's relative benefit. The majority of recent research suggests that moderate coffee consumption is benign or mildly beneficial in healthy adults. However, the diterpenes in coffee may increase the risk of heart disease.
Coffee

- Coffee is slightly acidic (pH 5.0–5.1) and can have a stimulating effect on humans because of its caffeine content. It is one of the most popular drinks in the world.

(http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Coffee)
Use of Sources in a Presentation

► Your presentation

• Could this use of the source be interpreted as plagiarism???
Use of Sources in a Presentation

► Your presentation

• Could this use of the source be interpreted as plagiarism???

  YES!

• Why? Because you did not put quotation marks around the quotation from Wikipedia.
How to Avoid Misconduct

• **Remember**: It is not enough just to **identify** your sources, you must put quotation marks ("...") around any direct quotations of another author’s words.

• **Turnitin**: [http://resourcecenter.odee.osu.edu/carmen/turnitin-suite-students#best-practices](http://resourcecenter.odee.osu.edu/carmen/turnitin-suite-students#best-practices)

• Keep the bigger picture in mind:
  • What is the purpose of the assignment?
  • What are my professor’s expectations?

• **Online courses**: quizzes and assignments are not meant to be open-book or collaborative, unless specified by the instructor
Advice and Comments From International Students Who Have Been Charged

- “Do your own work.”
- “If you don't know how to do the assignment, go straight to the instructor's office and ask for help.”
- “Never cheat on an exam. Leave the answer blank if you are lost. Otherwise, you will lose even more, such as integrity and trust.”
- “Citing is definitely the most different thing from my home country. Everything has to be very formally cited. I have learned to be more careful about everything.”
- “It's my mistake but it was not my intention.”
Advice From International Students Who Have Been Charged

• “Biggest advice gaining from this matter is we [international students] have to speak up for ourselves. In this matter, I discovered that my other two group members did not cite in their original drafts and I pointed out to one of them. But I didn't insist that they should listen to me since I was not confident enough and the youngest in the team. That's what I felt the most regrettable too.”
Immigration Implications

- Your academic and immigration record are closely linked!
- Suspension or dismissal → termination of F-1 or J-1 record
- Termination of F-1 or J-1 record → student cannot stay in US legally
So here you are at Ohio State...
Work hard.
Take risks.
Have fun.
Remember why you’re here.
You’ll have a great experience!
Photo Credits

• Dream Job: Charlie Phillips (flickr username), New York Stock Exchange
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• Great Experience: Ohio State Office of International Affairs