

# TIPS DUKE STUDENTS WISH THEY HAD KNOWN EARLIER

## Time is Different

College is less structured - you have a LOT of flexibility, which is great, but it also requires you to figure out how to organize, manage, and prioritize your time in a way you probably didn't have to do in high school. The expectation is that for every hour spent in class, you will have (about) 3 hours of work outside of class. That's around 10 hours/week for each class!

## Talk to your Professors

Get to know your professors. They are your best resource for many of your questions. Professors really DO want you to succeed and they are willing to work with you to figure out how. It can be a little intimidating at first, but take a minute to TALK to your professors - you might be surprised! (Not sure where to start? [Check out this link for tips](#)).

## Read. Your. Syllabus.

Not just the pages with the assignments and deadlines listed - ALL of it. Many of your syllabi contain information to help you better understand the professor's expectations, what's important, and even how to better prepare for exams. ([Learning Consultants](#) can show you what to look for!)

## Use Your Resources

You may think everyone else has it figured out, or that doing it by yourself is better. Neither is true. Learning is challenging, and as a Duke student you will do a LOT of learning. There's no reason to do it on your own! Talk to professors, advisors, friends, classmates, or other resources.

## Talk to your Advisor

Not sure who to talk to or where to go? Have a question but not sure where to find the answer? Talk to your advisor! Advisors are great resources for so much more than just course registration. And, if they don't know the answer, they will know how to help you find it!

## Check out the Libraries

What can you ask a librarian? The short answer is pretty much anything. The Libraries have books, music, databases (and more databases), study spaces, and more! Librarians can help you figure out what information you need, and then how to find it. Check out their [page for first-years](#)!