Talking with your Professor

Visit with your professor during office hours or make an appointment: If you are visiting during office hours, it is best to send an email or tell your professor after class that you plan on showing up. This will allow your professor to plan accordingly. If you are not available during your professor's office hours, try and reserve an appointment. When you do meet your professor, be sure to know exactly what material you want to cover. Writing down what you are there for can help you if you tend to get anxious and forget why you are there. It might also help to bring material from the course.

Show up on time: If your professor is late, wait 10 minutes. If you cannot make it be sure to tell your professor beforehand.

Show up with a positive attitude: If you act like your professor cannot help you, your professor probably will not be able to help you and will probably see you in a negative light. Come in with the attitude that your professor can help you.

Visit your professor with specific things to talk about:

Questions about course content: Bring in specific questions about content

Needing additional help: Ask your professor how you can better prepare for exams and about what you can improve on.

Appealing a poor grade: Be sure that you are in a calm mindset before talking with your professor about a poor grade. Ask them about why you got a certain question wrong and calmly bring up your concerns while being open to being wrong.

Ask your professor about their field: Ask about why the professor went into the field, careers in the field, or anything else you might be curious about. It might be a good idea to write out your questions before talking with your professor.

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