

HOW COLLEGE DIFFERS FROM HIGH SCHOOL

WHAT GRADUATING SENIORS SHOULD KNOW



HIGH SCHOOL vs COLLEGE

HIGH SCHOOL

COLLEGE

Rules vs. Responsibility

- You follow rules within guidelines provided for you
- Time is structured by others
- You spend about 30 hours per week in class within a regular, set time period



- You take responsibility for yourself and accept the consequences for your own actions or inactions
- You structure your own timeline
- You spend 12-16 hours per week in class and times vary throughout the day and evening hours

Courses

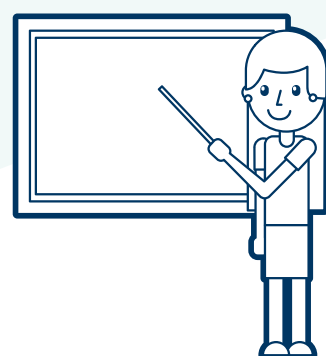
- You adhere to a standard set of courses to fulfill graduation requirements
- Classes typically contain up to 35 students
- Your teacher lets you know what you'll be expected to learn and checks to be sure assignments are completed



- You have control over the courses you choose
- Classes may contain 100 students or more
- You're expected to read and understand the assigned material. Professors assume that the work is completed on time and don't check in on you.

Learning & Assessment

- High school is an environment in which you acquire facts and skills
- Everything you've been taught in the course appears
- Reports or essays that summarize what you're learning are required



- College is an environment in which you take responsibility for thinking through and applying what you've learned
- Exams often only contain a sampling of what was covered in the course
- Papers require significant analysis and research

Grading

- Effort counts
- Grades are given for most or all assigned work
- You may graduate as long as you've passed all required courses with a D or higher



- Results count
- Grades may not be given for all assigned work
- Exams often only contain a sampling of what was covered in the course