

How to Raise Your Grades Quickly in 5-Steps

1. **Assess where you are in the semester and what you have left to do.**
 - a. Do you need to improve your grades in only one class, or many? Do you have assignments left to be submitted, or only the final exam?
 - b. Make a list of all the classes you currently have, what needs to be done for each class, and the due dates for all assignments and exams.
 - c. Use a calendar to mark out all your assignment due dates and exam dates. Use your syllabus as a guide.

2. **Assess your current studying techniques and behaviors thoroughly.**
 - a. Sit down and think about how you've been studying up until this point. Analyze what has worked and what hasn't - then ask yourself why.
 - b. Do you have your textbook, access codes or other supplies required for the course? If not, get them. Do you regularly miss class, assignments or exams? If so, stop this behavior now, to prevent failing the course.
 - c. Make a list of things you want to avoid doing in the future (e.g., procrastination, tardiness, absences, missing assignments etc.) - and don't do them. Remember successfully completing each course leads to successfully completing your degree.

3. **Talk to your teacher.**
 - a. Ask your teacher(s) for advice on how you can improve, and where you might have gone wrong.
 - b. Keep in mind that this conversation could go one of several ways. If you've been a lazy student up until this point, and you're now asking for help, some teachers are not going to be impressed. Make sure you approach them sincerely and then actually follow through on their advice. If you ask for their help and then don't follow it, they're probably not going to be too thrilled to help you again in the future.
 - c. Ask your teacher if there are any assignments you can do for extra credit. Ask your teacher if you can hand-in any outstanding assignments, even those past the deadline. Or if you can re-do any assignments you did badly on.
 - d. Ask for help as soon as you know you're having trouble. Do not wait until the last minute to ask for help, or to ask for things such as extra credit. In most cases it will be too late for you.



4. **Create a study schedule, get yourself organized and attend tutoring in the subjects with “C” averages and below.**

- a. Make a detailed schedule of times you’ll spend on studying and going to tutoring **each day**.
- b. Study more than one topic per day if possible. Smaller chunks of **daily** study time are more effective than a huge cram session or two.
- c. Plan to study 2-3 hours per week for each credit hour you're enrolled. If you're in a 3-hour history class, you should plan on studying an additional 6-9 hours per week for that class. If that sounds like a lot, that's because it is -- and it's what it usually takes to get good grades.



5. **Buckle down ... and stay buckled down until the semester is over.**

- a. Stick to your plan.
- b. Evaluate your progress often and reward yourself for achievements.
- c. Avoid getting distracted by friends, events, phone, tablet, TV, social media, games or excessive napping. These activities can absorb much of the time you need for studying.
- d. Ask for reduced hours at work, until the end of the semester, if you can afford it.
- e. You have very limited time, so use it wisely!

Adapted from WikiHow to do anything. <http://www.wikihow.com/Raise-Your-Grades-Quickly>

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