



## KEY DIFFERENCES BETWEEN HIGH SCHOOL AND COLLEGE

### High School

**Class choices** are minimal, and students take the courses assigned by the school.

**Textbooks** are provided to the student at the start of classes, returning them to the school at the end of the year.

**Most of the work** happens inside of the regular class times.

**Class notes** are usually copied or dictated.

#### **Teachers...**

1. provide and review all material in class that might be on a quiz or test,
2. focus on the individual needs of students,
3. are there to make students successful,
4. and regularly remind students of requirements and deadlines.

#### **Students...**

1. follow the reminders, milestones, and rough draft reviews given by teachers for major projects or papers,
2. do what they are told,
3. learn primarily through what is taught,
4. and accept the teacher and course materials as factual.

### College

**Class choices** are the responsibility of the student, including prerequisites and degree requirements that vary significantly. An advisor may help, but it is the student's responsibility.

**Textbooks** are found and purchased / rented by the student, becoming the student's responsibility.

**Most of the work** takes place outside of the regular class times.

**Class notes** must be evaluated and summarized from what the professor says.

#### **Professors...**

1. may evaluate students on material covered in class and things that students must independently learn outside of class,
2. focus on communicating the body of knowledge covered in the class,
3. are there to ensure the integrity of knowledge related to their subject area,
4. and expect students to gather requirements and deadlines themselves from course documents (like the syllabus) and advocate for themselves if they don't understand.

#### **Students...**

1. must take responsibility for managing their own timing and plans to meet final due dates for projects or papers,
2. mostly manage their own activities,
3. learn both through independent research and what is taught,
4. and question / evaluate the professor and course materials.