



Student Success Tips: How to Succeed in 8-week Courses

With some planning and consistent effort, you can thrive in 8-week courses! Because of the accelerated nature of these shorter courses, it is essential that you follow these guidelines.

1. **Complete Financial Aid Process:** Make sure your financial aid process is complete so you can register, purchase textbooks, and will not be dropped from your classes for nonpayment. If you are unsure, contact the Financial Aid Office at finaid@nmmc.edu or 505 747-2128.
2. **Register Early:** Register for your classes as soon as possible so that you can prepare for the semester.
3. **Schedule Carefully:** Take 2 first 8-week courses and 2 second 8-week courses for 12 credits. If you need 15 credits, add a 16-week course or a first 8-week course. Try not to take two challenging 8-week courses at the same time.
4. **Buy Textbooks Early:** Purchase textbooks two weeks before the semester begins so you will be ready for class! Also, buy second 8-week textbooks at this time to take advantage of financial aid funds. At this link, enter your Eagle ID to see the textbooks for your required courses:
https://bncvirtual.com/vb_buy2.php?FVCUSNO=3597&ACTION=chooseCourses
5. **Log into your Blackboard Course on the FIRST DAY:** On the first day of classes, log in and carefully review the Start Here module, the Course Syllabus, the Instructor Information, and the Course Schedule.
6. **Be Organized:** Create google calendar events for zoom classes, weekly deadlines, instructor office hours, exam dates, essay due dates.
7. **Keep up with the Work:** Log in 3 to 4 times a week and specifically on the date each module opens. Review the weekly assignments. Break up the work and make a schedule to complete the assignments at least one day ahead of the deadline. (You may need this window if something comes up!) Add reminders to your phone or google calendar so you do not get behind in your schedule. *8-week courses move very quickly and it is essential that you keep up with the work!*

8. **Use the Resources:** If your instructor provides samples and rubrics, read these carefully. Examine all instructions very carefully. Watch all posted videos. Read all assignments carefully. Carefully review all instructor emails and announcements.
9. **Ask for HELP:** If you do not understand an assignment, ask your instructor for further explanation. Follow the instructor's guidelines for preferred communication (course messages, phone, email). Visit the instructor's office hours to review assignments in progress or ask questions about difficult concepts. Ask questions during zoom classes.

If you need tutoring, visit one of the tutoring centers. Follow this link for information on Math Center, Writing Center, and Peer Tutoring:
<https://nnmc.edu/tutoring/>

If you need help navigating your Blackboard course or using zoom, contact an Eagle Tech at eagle.tech@nnmc.edu or (505) 747-2224.

If you need help accessing your college technology (NNMC email, banner, or Blackboard), schedule a Tech Set Up. Contact Advisement at advisement@nnmc.edu.

Seek help immediately. Do not wait as 8-week courses move very quickly.

10. **Maintain Excellent Attendance and Participation:** Attend and participate actively in all zoom classes. Thoughtfully engage in online discussion posts. Continue to log in several times a week and complete your work by the deadlines. Missing just one day is like missing an entire week of classes!