

A Warm Welcome from the Dean

For some of you **Welcome to MJC Agriculture Department** and others **Welcome Back**. If you're a *freshman*, *sophomore* or even a *Super Sophomore*, we hope that you have a great year.

Below are some helpful tips:

- **Go to class.** It's amazing how much you'll learn just by showing up!
- **Participate!** Just showing up is a great start but the more active you are in class, the more information you will retain.
- **Get some sleep.** Your 8 a.m. class is not the place to rest after a long night. Get to bed and get some sleep, especially before a big test.
- **Pay attention to the syllabus.** It's like a roadmap for the semester. It has a summary of course requirements, the professor's expectations and the due dates for assignments. You won't get reminders.
- **Know where to sit.** Sitting in the front of class can force you to pay attention. It also makes it easier for you to participate in class discussions.
- **Take notes.** In fact, take many notes and take good notes. Find a note-taking strategy that complements your learning style. Don't be afraid to use technology, like a smartphone, to help you. You might even want to record important lectures.
- Don't be afraid to ask for help. If you're having trouble in class, talk to your professor. Many colleges also offer free tutoring services.
- **Manage your time.** Use the time between classes to review for tests, copy notes, read, conduct research, and do homework.
- **Get a strategy for studying.** Don't just study aimlessly. Set a goal and a schedule for your study time. Everyone has different learning styles, and your college may have people who can help you figure out a good studying strategy – so go talk to them!
- **Make friends and network.** Know your classmates and find out which ones are succeeding. Join their study group, friend them on social media, do what you can to learn and model their habits. This also helps you build the networking skills you will need to find employment after college.

If you need help – ASK!

If you have questions – ASK!

If you need my assistance – ASK!

JUST ASK!

Sincerely,

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