

Tips of becoming a Successful Student

Success is not the result of spontaneous combustion.

You must set yourself on fire.

Reggie Leach

Read and understand the course

syllabus. The course syllabus is the guide for what your instructor expects in the course – what assignments are due and when, the priorities for learning, and how grades are determined.

Get to know your instructor. Use before and after class time or the instructor “office hour” to discuss any difficulties you are having with your class. At COM-FSM, your instructor will work with you and help you to be successful.

Don't skip class EVER (unless you are really sick or have an emergency).

Woody Allen says that “80% of success in life is showing up”. “Showing up” is the foundation for success in life and in college. Your college years are part of your life. For college students, we might restate Woody Allen’s quote to read “80% of being a successful college student is showing up. The other 20% of success is hard work, persistence, striving for excellence and knowing which thing to click on your computer screen.”

Do all readings and assignments on

schedule and turn them in. Falling behind is self-perpetuating, and coming to class unprepared makes you less able to understand the new material and ask questions.

Ask about and investigate student

support services. COM-FSM offers a number of services – tutoring, labs for reading, writing, math and computers, advising and counseling services, library, and career center – and all are available free of charge! Use them often to assist with your work.

Don't drop a course without first talking to your instructor and/or an advisor.

Although you may be experiencing difficulties in a course, there may be solutions to your problems that you might not see. We want you to be successful, so talk to the COM-FSM staff members and get their help.

Set measurable academic and personal goals each semester.

A key difference between students who succeed and those who don't is that students who succeed have clearly defined goals.

Accept personal responsibility to

succeed. As Abraham Lincoln once said, “Always bear in mind that your own resolution to succeed is more important than any one thing.” Successful students tend to be realistic and recognize that their success or failure is primarily determined by their efforts.

Get to know other students and participate in student activities.

Forming study groups is one of the best ways to be successful. Get to know others by attending events on campus.

Build a master calendar. With all of your life activities scheduled (work, classes, study time, practice), you will be able to see in advance and plan for two tests on one day, for example. You can be proactive rather than reactive in approaching your academic assignments.

The COM-FSM Student Handbook and Planner 2009-2010 is a publication of the Department of Student Services

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Historically diverse, uniquely Micronesian and globally connected, the College of Micronesia-FSM is a continuously improving and student centered institute of higher education. The college is committed to assisting in the development of the Federated States of Micronesia by providing academic, career and technical educational opportunities for student learning.

2009-2010

STUDENT HANDBOOK & PLANNER



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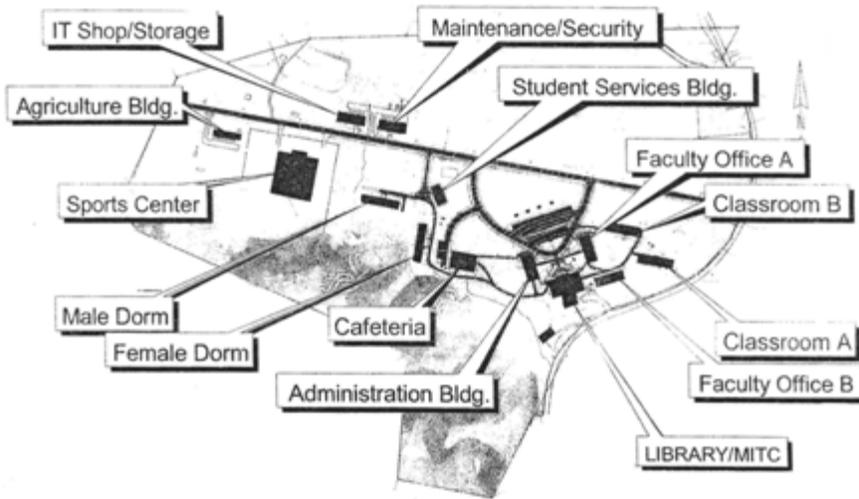
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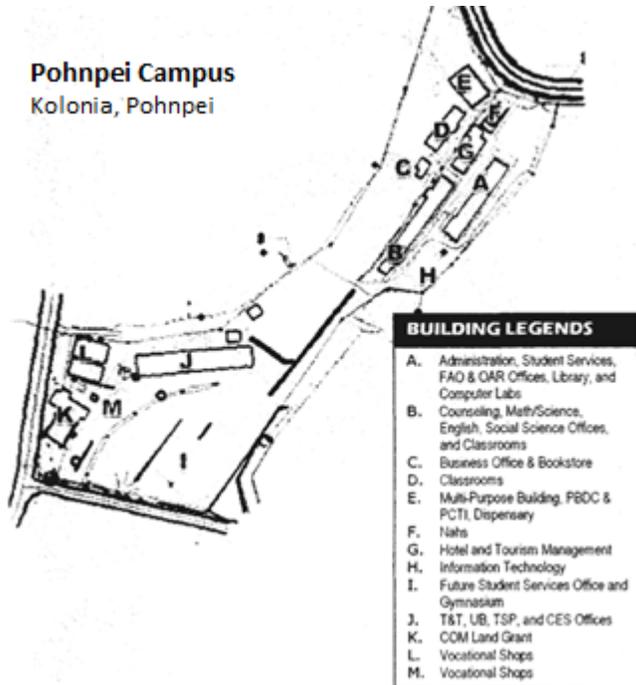
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Campus Maps

National Campus Palikir, Pohnpei



Pohnpei Campus Kolonias, Pohnpei



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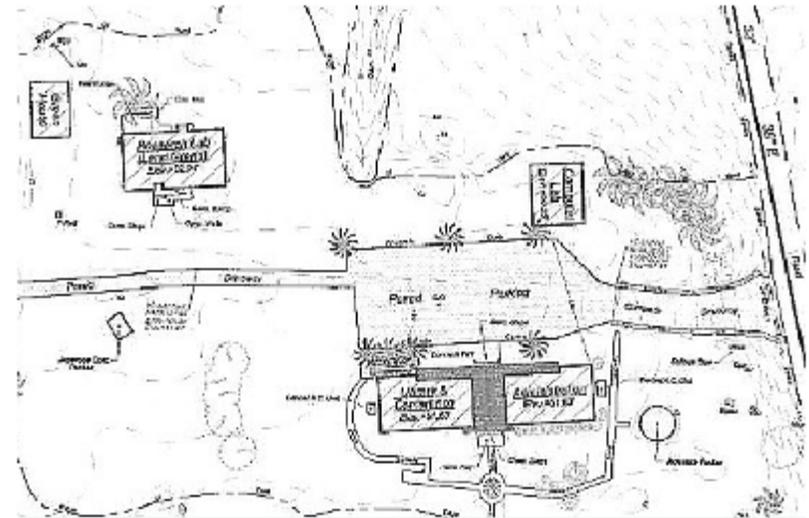
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Campus Maps

Yap Campus
Colonia, Yap



Kosrae Campus
Tofol, Kosrae

