

## Do You Plan to Go to College and Earn a Degree?

Then eventually you may want to consider these 3 things:

1. Accept that you cannot cheat your way to a college degree. You may be very good at cheating in high school, but colleges have figured out how to make it very difficult or impossible to cheat. The students who graduate from college figure out how to learn because every college requires graduates to be competent in their fields. You may want to consider how much you are NOT learning in high school by cheating...if you need to know it later, it will be much tougher and more expensive to learn it in college.

2. To figure out how to learn, you need to answer these questions about yourself:

- a) Where should you study so you can learn the most in the least amount of time?
- b) What time of day should it be?
- c) How long should the study session be? After a certain amount of time, your brain will feel full and it will be better to stop rather than waste time getting frustrated. Realize if the sessions are shorter, you may need more of them.
- d) Should you study alone or with others? If with others – who helps you the most?
- e) Do you learn more with music on or not? If so, which music?
- f) Does it help to eat or drink anything when you study?
- g) Can you learn with the TV on or while you are doing anything online?
- h) If you need to memorize things, should you make flashcards or rewrite the notes?
- i) If you are still totally confused, should you find websites online to get more help?

3. “Work” to learn the material even if you don’t care about it personally. (You may have to act like you do care...or challenge your brain to become smart enough to be able to get the right answer.)

“work” here means to focus and participate during class time, do all the homework and then do more if you are still not understanding the concept.