I view my role as an instructor to prepare students for the next educational level (i.e., Bachelor’s degree). Therefore, my class involves much reading, writing, and research. Below is a list of statements to reflect on to gauge your readiness for my class:

1. If you’re not ready, willing, or able to work hard, my class will be much harder than it has to be.
2. If you don’t want to take school seriously, my class will be much harder than it has to be.
3. If you can’t attend class each time, on time, and the full time, my class will be much harder than it has to be.
4. If you can’t follow instructions, my class will be much harder than it has to be.
5. If you’re a procrastinator, my class will be very much harder than it has to be.
6. If you’re undisciplined and disorganized, my class will be much harder than it has to be.
7. If you’re unwilling to complete the research paper (it counts for 30% of your grade), my class will be much harder than it has to be.
8. If you’re addicted to a relationship, alcohol or other drugs, video games, Facebook, MySpace, Twitter, YouTube, your cell phone or iPod, texting, pornography, TV, sleep, etc., my class will be very much harder than it has to be.
9. If you’re juggling too many things (e.g., job, family, boyfriend, girlfriend, friends, other classes), and can’t manage them along with this demanding course, you’ll probably be overwhelmed by my class. I really do want you to take my class because I believe you’ll enjoy it and learn much, but if any of the above is true for you and you’re unwilling to work towards overcoming them, you might want to reconsider taking my class. However, if you want to actually learn something and earn a grade you can be satisfied with, follow these steps:

   1. Come to class
   2. Follow instructions
   3. Don’t procrastinate
   4. Be self-disciplined*

*do what you’ve got to do whether you feel like it or not because it needs to be done

+++there’s more on the page below+++
CHARACTERISTICS OF STUDENTS WHO TEND TO NOT ENJOY THEIR CLASSES AND TO EARN GRADES BELOW THEIR POTENTIAL
Carlton H. Oler, Ph.D., Licensed Psychologist
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1. Don’t realize that college is a full-time job/commitment, and so don’t take their classes serious enough.

2. Avoid or minimize taking responsibility for their learning.

3. Disorganized and undisciplined.

4. Procrastinate on assignments and studying for exams.

5. Poor class attendance.

6. Expect college to be easier than it actually is—thinking that college is like high school.

7. Expect instructor “mercy or grace” to make up for their poor academic effort.

8. Don’t take full advantage of the opportunities given to maximize learning and points possible.

9. In college for the wrong reasons.

10. Too many other things going on in their life.

11. Not really motivated to be in college and take care of business.

12. Lazy—not my word choice, but what so many students have said to me about why many students get poor grades.