10 Tips on Talking to Your Professor

- **1.** Pay attention in class and to the syllabus. Be aware of the expectations of the professor as this may answer any questions prior to meeting with them.
- 2. Narrow down why you want or need to talk to your professor.
 - a. Are you wanting further clarification on a class concept?
 - b. Are you concerned about your grade?
 - c. Are you needing clarification or guidance on an assignment?
 - d. Are you wanting to inform your professor of a personal issue?

Have a clear understanding of everything you need to talk about and take notes if you need to bring something with you.

- **3.** Schedule a time to meet with your professor or visit during office hours and inform them of the purpose of the meeting.
- **4.** Be clear, direct, and sincere. Make eye contact with your professor.
- **5.** Listen and understand what your professor has to say in response. As easy as it sounds, take it all in and listen before you respond.
- **6.** Continue to talk to your professor. Tell them EVERYTHING that you need and make sure you get all your questions answered while you have the chance to meet with them.
- 7. Thank them for their time and assistance.
- **8.** Check in regularly throughout the course to keep consistent communication.
- **9.** Seek extra course-specific assistance through the Learning and Writing Center. You can sign up for services on their website: http://www.usfca.edu/lwc/
- **10.** If extra guidance is needed, reach out to your Faculty Advisor through your major department, or your Academic Success Coach in CASA.

