

Other Common Questions:

How should I review my exam/paper before meeting with my professor?

Carefully review the grading sheet and comments your professor gave you with your exam and/or paper. A grading sheet will provide you with detailed information on the points allocated to the specific information the professor was looking for. When viewing the grading sheet, identify areas where your answer or paper received lower marks.

In your overall review of your exam answer/paper, as relevant:

- 1) Look at the point totals to see how you did overall. Did you have trouble with one particular question or did you perform fairly evenly on each question?
- 2) Look for patterns. Did you do poorly on all first questions/last questions? Did you allocate time well, have initial jitters, or did fatigue set in?
- 3) Are there certain types of questions you did better on? How did you do on the issue-spotting questions? Short-answer questions? What skills should you concentrate on improving?
- 4) Focus on content. Did you really know the law? Did you state it correctly and thoroughly? Did you apply the law to the facts? Did you come to a conclusion too quickly without first exploring all the possibilities raised by the facts?

Should you talk to your professor?

In most cases, the answer is yes. But, unless there's a mathematical error, don't think that doing so will change your grade. Your goal in talking to your professor should be to understand what you did right and what you did wrong--not to argue.

Before you set up an appointment to discuss substance, make sure you have read your exam/paper and have formulated questions in advance. Check your answer against your outline to see if you can spot missed issues. Tell your professor which issues you found after the fact and see if your list is complete.

Above all, take an active role at this meeting. The following questions may help you identify trends:

- Did I spot the most important issues? Did I miss important issues entirely?
- Did I clearly explain the law or sufficiently describe the legal standard?
- Did I adequately explain exceptions and/or counter arguments?
- Was my answer well-organized?

- Did I thoroughly develop the analysis and application?
- Did I explore the facts of the question in light of the legal principles and issues that I identified?
- Did I merely state the “answer” in a conclusory manner?
- What aspects of my exam were strong? Weak?

What else should I do if I think I really bombed? You should contact Professor Terzano at jterzano1@udaytogn.edu to schedule an appointment to develop strategies to improve your academic performance.

ACADEMIC SUCCESS PROGRAM

Post-Exam Review Checklist

When you review your exam with your professor, use the “Exam Review Checklist” on the following pages to guide your questions and determine what you need to do differently to improve your academic performance, especially with regard to issue-spotting and analysis. Complete the chart in detail describing the problems with your exam as identified by your professor.

Ask your professor for suggestions on how to study to improve your skills and writing. Assess how you studied for this exam and compare it to your professor’s recommendations. Given the grade you received, what study techniques helped you from receiving a lower grade? What study techniques may have prevented you from receiving a higher grade? Complete the “Analysis of Study Techniques” chart, a copy of which can be found on the table outside the Academic Success Program office.

Please email Professor Terzano at jterzano1@udayton.edu to set up an appointment and to devise a plan to improve your academic performance this semester.

Exam Review Checklist

| Name: | | Course: | | |
|----------------------------------|------------|-----------------|------------------|----------------------------|
| Professor's Name: | | Mid-term Score: | | |
| DID I ... | YES | NO | SOMETIMES | I CAN IMPROVE BY... |
| Allocate my time well? | | | | |
| Outline my answers? | | | | |
| Answer the question? | | | | |
| Spot the major issues? | | | | |
| Spot the minor issues? | | | | |
| Write about irrelevant issues? | | | | |
| State the legal rule? | | | | |
| Apply the law to facts? | | | | |
| Argue both sides? | | | | |
| Follow IRAC, CRAC or PRE-IRAC-C? | | | | |

Analysis of Study Techniques

| | |
|-------------------|-----------------|
| Name: | Course: |
| Professor's Name: | Mid-term Score: |

Ask your course professor for suggestions on how to study to improve your skills and exam/legal writing.

Evaluate your study techniques for this exam. Did you read and brief your cases before class? Were you able to follow class discussions? Did you visit your professor throughout the semester to clarify any course concepts you did not understand? Did you review your class notes? Did you complete a course outline? Did you complete hypothetical problems? Did you develop hypothetical problems? Did you participate in a study group? Did you complete practice exams under timed conditions?

Given the score you received, what study techniques helped you from receiving a lower score?

What study techniques may have prevented you from receiving a higher score?