What Makes a Successful Community College Student?

“An investment in knowledge pays the best interest” is a valid quote by Benjamin Franklin. Being successful in community college is just the beginning to achieving great success in life. Success in college is a stepping stone to obtaining a newer and greater life style. Envisioning what you want in your future and how education can help you attain those goals is the first step to becoming a successful student. There are various factors that make up a successful community college student.

A successful community college student has many strong qualities. One factor a community college student has is purpose. In detail, a successful student recognizes the importance and benefits community college has to offer. Being aware of the advantages is crucial. For example, I am a person with no credible talents such as; singing, dancing, playing an instrument, etc. but college gives me the opportunity to become something great and to do something with my life. My family has never been wealthy seeing as, they came from a country in severe poverty and were once immigrants with very little work in America.

As I grew up, I have always dreamed of going to big universities such as Syracuse in New York or the University of Florida but the sooner I got to college I realized there was no way me or my family could support those dreams because of insufficient funds. Therefore, I planned to go to community college to save money and hopefully earn a scholarship based on my grades. Although, hearing about my friends going off to big universities and explaining to them I will be living in the same town or not going to a big school affected my self-esteem, I recognized none of that matters as long as I accomplished my goals on my own terms. Goal setting is another factor a successful community college student has. A student can set and accomplish goals by planning, whether it's planning to do better on the next test, planning the times you do homework for each class or planning what university you will attend after completing your associates. Time management correlates to planning and is also another quality that makes up a successful community college student. Planning helps manages a student's time wisely. If you are a person who constantly plans and prepares you are more likely to be organized. Organizational skills are also important to becoming a successful community college student. Furthermore, another necessity to become successful in college is motivation. A motivated student doesn’t make excuses. It easy to make excuses for not doing homework or not studying. For example, my grandfather whom I am very close to has been admitted to ICU due to a critical car accident. He has been in ICU for about three weeks now which is abnormal. Instead of getting better he has gotten worse over time. Personally, I'd rather be at the hospital reading him books or holding his hand. Then I remember I have class, homework and studying I need to complete because I know he would rather me do well in school. This traumatic event in my life is not an excuse to do poorly in school. Now, I currently have all A’s in my classes. My motivation is the idea of telling my grandfather how well I am doing in school and how one day when he gets better and I have a good education I would be able to buy him that red convertible he’s always wanted. Motivation is a primary quality of a successful community college student. Other key factors that make up a successful community college student are; effective study skills, taking advantage of school resources, constant attendance to class and a strong work ethic. There are various but not limited ways a person is or can become a successful community college student.

In conclusion, there are many qualities of a successful community college student. Many students may claim college is hard. However, it is important to remember that being a successful student is achievable. Vince Lombardi states “The difference between a successful person and others is not a lack of knowledge, but rather a lack of will. “The roots of education may be difficult but the outcome and goal is always worth it in the end. I am on my way to becoming a successful community college student.