

FAQ- Easily making it through Creasman's class

1.- Is the Prep Work fundamental to my grade?

Yes; there is a small percentage that accounts for the final grade. But that is not why the prep work is fundamental in order to get a good grade. The prep work does for you too great things: first, it helps you understand what Professor Creasman (yes, he talks fast) is talking about before hand, so when you come to class, the material is a breeze and you will understand it more in depth. The second reason is as follows: when you have to study for a midterm or the final, your prep work contains much of the material for your test, so guess what? You have already started reading and learning about it weeks and weeks before hand.

2.- Come to Class

No way around it. Its not attendance that matters, is the stuff you will miss if you don't come. As much as the prep work helps, Professor Creasman makes it easier and sharpens the material. You don't want to miss all the 'hints' (they are pretty obvious) he gives for the exams.

3.- Note Taking- Tips on how to do it right

An absolute must in the class; since you won't remember everything the professor says, and *you won't*, you need to take notes.

Tips:

- DON'T write everything. You will not be able to do so, therefore, don't try! You will only get frustrated.

- Write main ideas: Dates, Events, and always connections to what the Professor critically analyzes. If you are a slow writer, write words instead of complete sentences. If you type wonderfully fast, bring your laptop.
- Use highlighters: Easier on the eyes to differ distinct topics, it is also proven that it helps you remember. Highlight the MOST important issues, events, etc.
- Keep them in a notebook. So the notes will be organized and not loose. Each class will follow the next in an orderly fashion.

4.- How Do I Ace the test?

To ace the test there are previous steps that must be done before studying: Paying attention in class, keeping up with your prep work and taking good notes. After this has been done throughout the course you will find that studying for the test is much easier, and shorter. However, studying *must* be done. Not the night before, I personally recommend *a week* before hand. This is good so you don't have to sit six hours straight studying. Rather, study a couple of hours a day. The professor gives you the essays for the test some days before, and your job is simply to gather the information regarding the questions. My advice: Make a little study guide for each essay. Once you have written it down, it becomes much easier to remember it. You can also read it to yourself and repeat out loud.

5.- Don't forget: YOU are in college

You must take the time and effort to study. This class only asks of you what is expected from a college-level class. The goal is to **LEARN**, if you don't study, how can you possibly broaden your horizons? We must strive for excellence in every situation, become the best professionals that we can, so we can be truly productive in our society when we end school. How sad would it be to not know our own history? Who our presidents were, what they did, the revolutions we faced, the hardships, the battles we

conquered, the pain we suffered, the country we have become today is a product of yesterday. Be proud and eager to study the facts that made America. You will understand more of yourself and of the ones that surround you. A truly life-changing experience, your eyes will never be 'blind' or ignorant again. As my grandma always said, if you have to do something, might as well do it *willingly*.

P.S: Dear Professor Creasman,

You are a marvelous teacher. I have been in 14 different schools, and when I say this, I don't say it lightly. You have made me fall in love with American History, and also made me see things I could have never possibly gathered from a history textbook. Please don't be discouraged if some of the seats in your class are empty. Both my history classes count as elective, the first class I took was a 'mistake' and when I found out how wonderful you taught, I decided to stay, I realized I still had elective credits and instead of taking an easy elective, I took you again! I cherish every learning experience from your class and know that it will follow me for my entire life. Have into account that the American system sometimes is based on commodity. People try to take the easy way out, it is not against your teaching 'methods', they are wonderful and challenging, and they make us smarter!!!! (I would think a good thing, right?)

I have other classes, in which we learn *nothing*, we are giving the full questions and answers to the tests, so all we have to do is memorize. Those classes are packed. They are also the classes, that unlike yours, all the material is forgotten at the 50th multiple choice question. We learn nothing.

Thank you for doing what Professors should do, **thank you** for T E A C H I N G.

Never forget: *You* are the BEST.

All my love, Maria Guadalupe Lata

Hope this helps some students
out! ☺