Set clear expectations

- The most successful classes I’ve taken have included detailed syllabi with a grading rubric, office hours, a clear list of assignments and exams, and important course policies.

- In addition to clear expectations, it was reassuring to know that there was room for flexibility. I felt accountable to my professors and comfortable asking for help when issues arose.

Facilitate class discussion

- I really valued when professors offered varied opportunities for class participation, such as large and small group discussions, short in-class activities, and presentations. As a reserved student, it allowed me to participate in a comfortable format but also to push myself to be more confident speaking in larger group settings.

- Facilitating class discussion was also essential for staying on task in discussion-based courses. The professors whom I admired made me feel like a valued contributor and pushed me to think more deeply by asking questions, helping me better articulate my thoughts, or connecting my contributions to larger course themes.

Encourage students to seek help outside the class

- Having professors who were observant and encouraged me to seek help outside the classroom was invaluable. Nothing was better motivation to visit the Writing Center, the Math Question Center, or a peer tutor than hearing those recommendations from the people who were most familiar with my work.

Encourage collaboration

- My favorite course encouraged students to collaborate in many different settings – in presentations, in study groups, and in a peer-tutoring format. Many of my ideas we clarified by engaging students in my class, in the Bi-Co, and in the Writing Center.