

Tips for Success at St Philip's College from Faculty and Staff

Monique Johnson Dixon:

Assistant Professor of Psychology, SPC, Social &
Behavioral Sciences Department

Always put your best forward. You have the tools within you to be successful. Never let anyone tell you that success is not yours!

Katherine Valdez: FYE Coordinator

GO TO TUTORING EVERY SINGLE DAY! This was the key to getting through college for me. I flunked out of San Antonio College two years in a row because I never went to tutoring. But I eventually realized that seeking tutoring doesn't mean I'm less than—it means I'm being proactive and setting myself up for success.

Liz Coronado Castillo: Director of Student Success

Don't hesitate to ask faculty and staff for help—that's what we're here for. Surround yourself with friends who share your goals, build a strong community, and seek out mentors who can guide you. Stay engaged on campus, ask questions, and take advantage of every opportunity, including scholarships. Your success starts with the connections you make and the support you seek!

Kelli Rolland-Adkins: MSW, MA Assistant Professor of Social Work and Sociology

Get to know your instructors and make sure they know you as well—visit them during office hours and build a connection. Attend class regularly and stay engaged. Be open to opportunities both inside and outside the classroom, such as clubs, organizations, scholarships, field trips, study abroad programs, and guest speakers. These experiences can enrich your education and open doors to new possibilities.

Marissa Ramirez: Assistant Professor of English Mexican American Studies Coordinator

As a First-Gen student, I quickly learned that building a strong community with like-minded peers is essential for success.

Connecting with professors is just as important, as they genuinely care about helping students thrive. Lastly, seizing opportunities requires self-belief and embracing the unknown, making college a journey of growth and transformation.

Nathan Martinez: Career Experience Team

Success in college begins with organization—use a planner or digital calendar to track assignments and deadlines, ensuring you stay on top of your work. Build relationships with professors, advisors, and classmates, as networking and seeking support can lead to unexpected opportunities.

Develop strong study habits by establishing a routine, utilizing campus resources, and actively participating in class. Most importantly, prioritize self-care by balancing your schedule, getting enough rest, and making time for activities that keep you motivated and reduce stress.

