

SYLLABUS SCAVENGER HUNT



IT'S IN THE SYLLABUS

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Tired of repeating, “It’s in the syllabus”? You’re not alone. Students often miss key information, even when it’s covered in the first class. Make the experience interactive instead—help them read the syllabus happily and discover the information themselves.

How it Works

- **Form Small Groups**
 - Divide students into teams during the first or second session.
- **Give Them a Set of Clues or Questions**
 - Example: “*What is the late submission policy?*” or “*How many absences are allowed?*”
- **Have Them Search the Syllabus**
 - Students work together to find and write down the correct answers.
- **Add a Competitive Element**
 - The first group to complete all questions accurately wins a small reward (bonus point, candy, etc.).
- **Peer Review Round**
 - Collect responses and distribute them to another group to check for accuracy. This reinforces understanding and encourages attention to detail.
- **Debrief and Clarify**
 - Go over the answers as a class, explain rationale where needed, and address any lingering questions about course policies or expectations.

Sample Scavenger Questions

- What will I learn in this course?
- What happens if I turn in an assignment late?
- How do I contact the instructor?
- What qualifies as academic integrity violations?
- Where can I find the course textbook or readings?
- What should I bring to each class session?
- What happens if I’m absent X times?
- Where can I go for help if I don’t understand the material?



Bonus Tip

- Use Google Forms or Kahoot for digital versions.
- Include “*hidden messages*” or a “*secret word*” or phrase in the syllabus and ask students to find and report it as part of the challenge (e.g., “*The key to success is preparation*”).
- End the activity with a reflective prompt: “*What’s one thing in the syllabus that you think will help you succeed?*”