

**From:** [Thrive at NDSU - used to provide messages throughout the first year](#) on behalf of [Frazier, Emily](#)  
**To:** [NDSU-THRIVE@LISTSERV.NODAK.EDU](mailto:NDSU-THRIVE@LISTSERV.NODAK.EDU)  
**Subject:** Thrive@NDSU: Working with Faculty  
**Date:** Monday, September 23, 2024 8:41:14 AM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)  
[image003.png](#)

---



Fun fact: I was once a student too. Let me share some pro-tips for connecting with your instructors.

1. Successful communication with instructors depends on three key things: professionalism, responsibility, and interest. The best communication happens face to face, whether that means stopping by during office hours or making an appointment.
2. In email, be a little more formal than you are with family and friends. Professional communication uses full sentences, appropriate titles (Dr. Professor, Instructor), and is clear and concise.
3. It's ok to ask for help or flexibility when you really need it, just make sure it's clear you understand that it's your responsibility to do the work and follow through if extensions are granted.
4. Finally, showing an interest in the course material or the professor's research is a great way to build a strong relationship and open doors to opportunity.

Your professors enjoy hearing from you, so don't be afraid to reach out and make those connections.

**Emily Frazier, EdD**  
Dean of Students  
Student Affairs and Institutional Equity  
*Pronouns: she/her/hers*

Old Main 100  
Dept. 2840, PO Box 6050  
Fargo, ND 58108-6050  
701.231.8406  
[www.ndsu.edu/deanofstudents](http://www.ndsu.edu/deanofstudents)

We collectively acknowledge that we gather at NDSU, a land grant institution, on the traditional lands of the Oceti Sakowin (Dakota, Lakota, Nakoda) and Anishinaabe Peoples in addition to many diverse Indigenous Peoples still connected to these lands. We honor with gratitude Mother Earth and the Indigenous Peoples who have walked with her throughout generations. We will continue to learn how to live in unity with Mother Earth and build strong, mutually beneficial, trusting relationships with Indigenous Peoples of our region.

