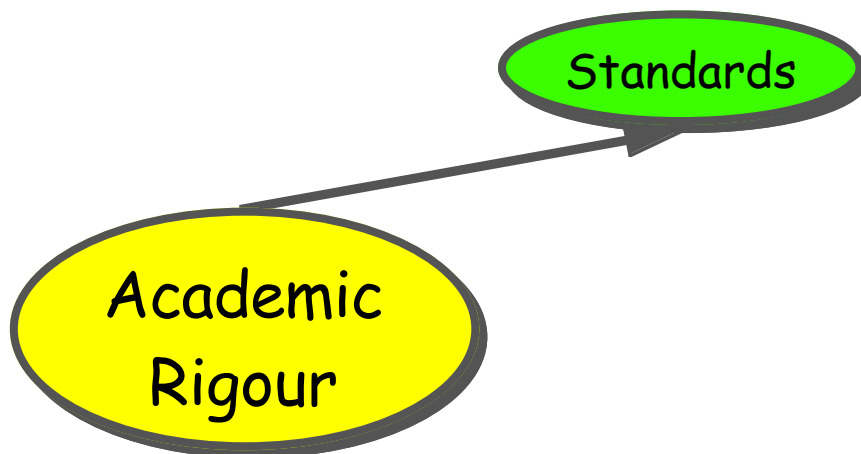
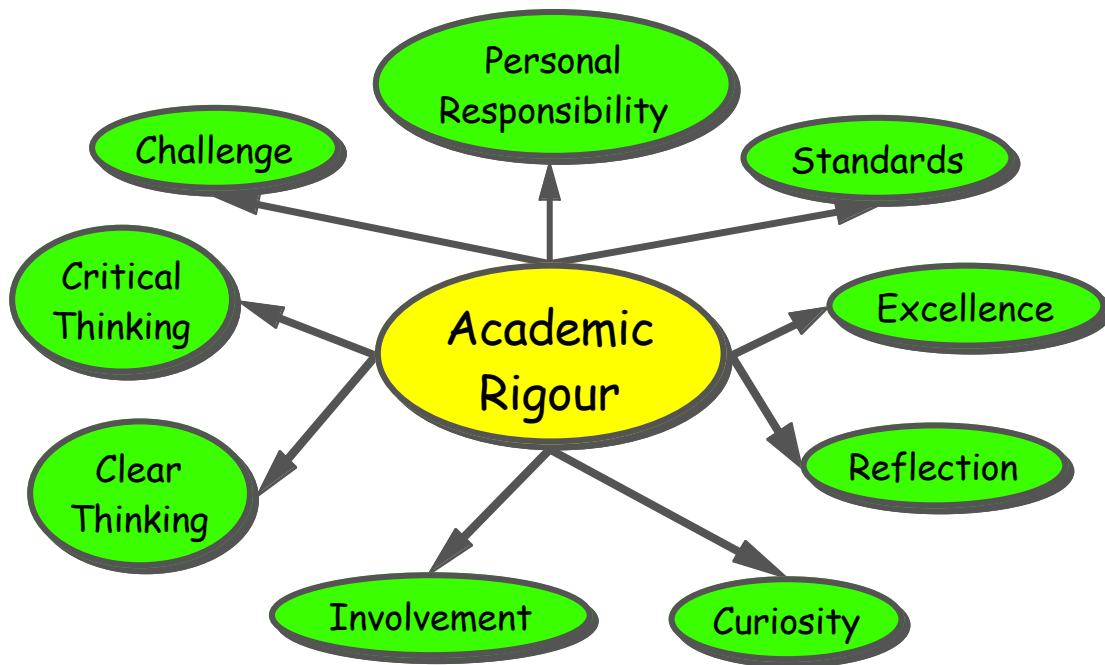
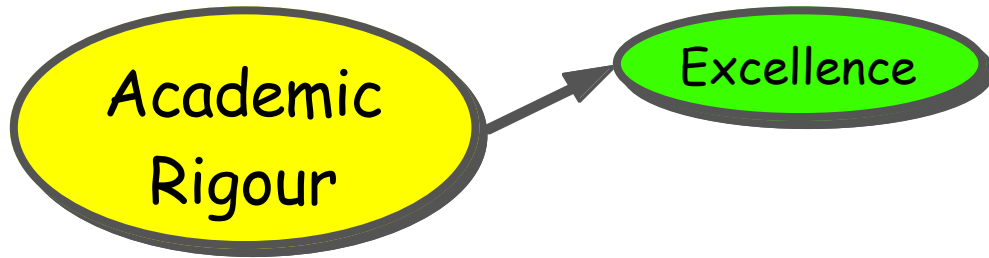


A FEW THOUGHTS ON ACADEMIC RIGOUR

My “association list”...



Standards need to come from the self.
In this way, standards are tied to motivation.



There is no absolute "excellence."

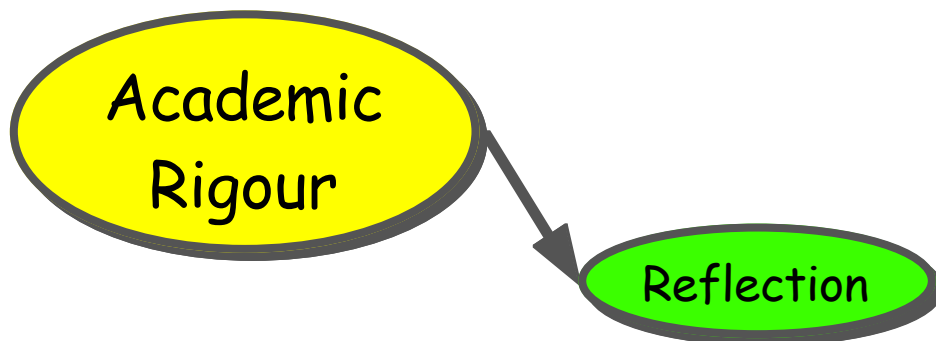
There are degrees of refinement.

For one reason or another, few people are capable of "excellence."

It is perhaps more meaningful to talk about "personal best."

Universities look for outstanding work -- and they call it "excellence."

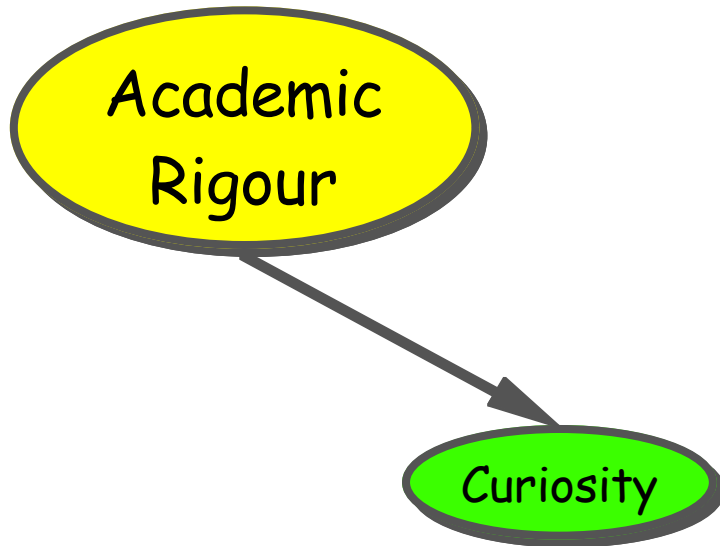
Doing your "personal best" does not mean that you will be recognized for "excellence." You are in competition with others. And you are in competition with the professor's standard of "excellence."



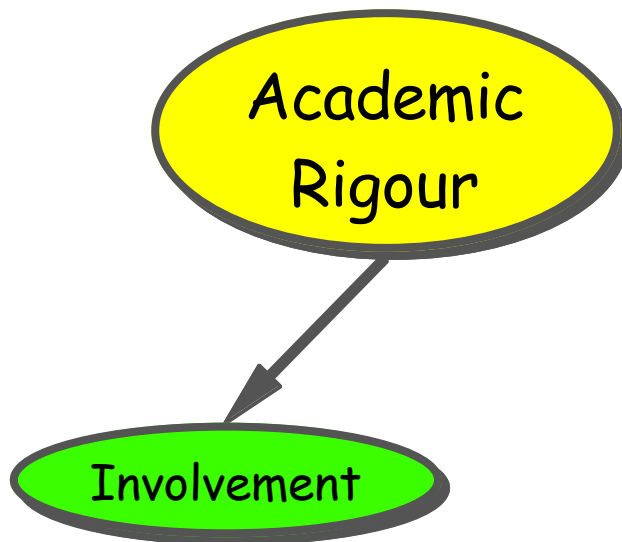
This is necessary if you are to make sense out of all the information that you take in.

This is one of the key benefits of post-class review.

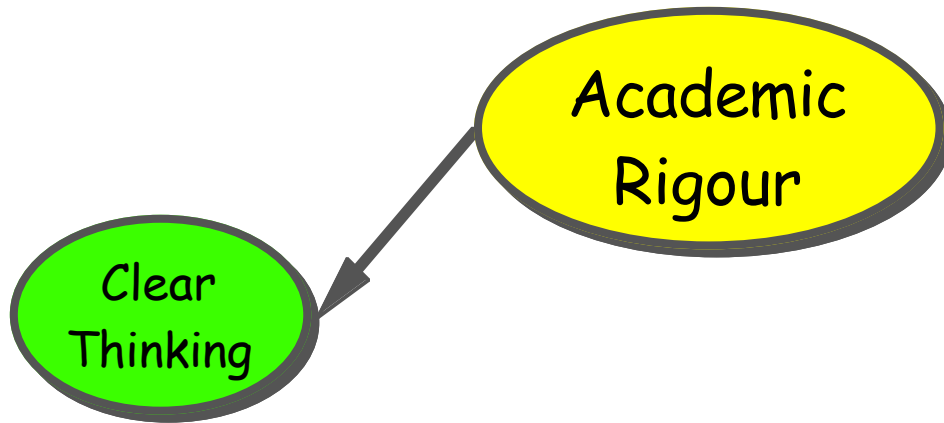
Part of the process of reflection is to engage in discussion about the topics.



Without this, you will be satisfied with too little.
Curiosity needs to be limitless.
It's what leads to questions--and questions lead to learning.

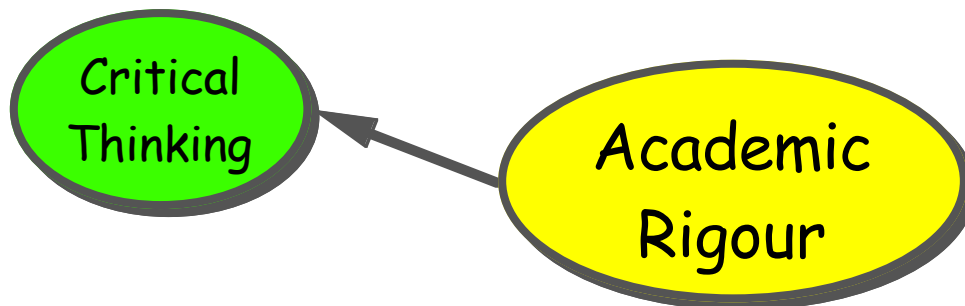


Physical & intellectual
Preparing for class.
Never missing a class.
Never being late.
Reviewing after class.
Setting out an organized review schedule.
Never missing an assignment.
"Going beyond."



Thinking about your own thinking.

Setting standards for the information you accept as true & which you use in your assignments.

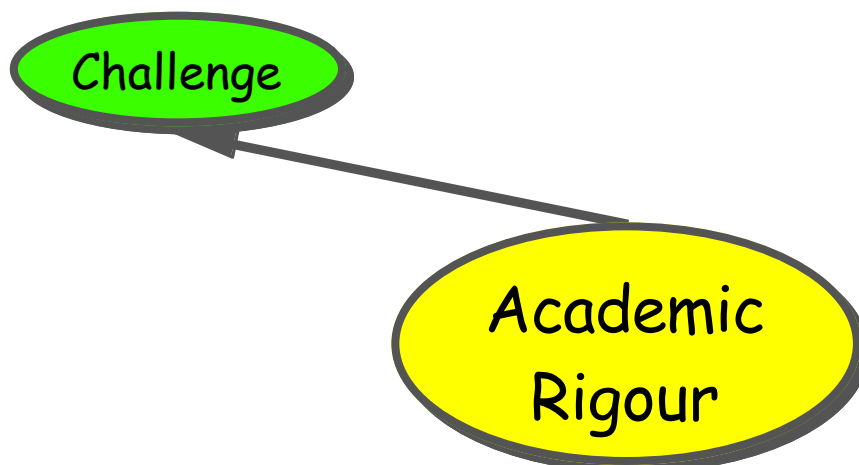


Asking questions.

Not being satisfied with simplistic answers.

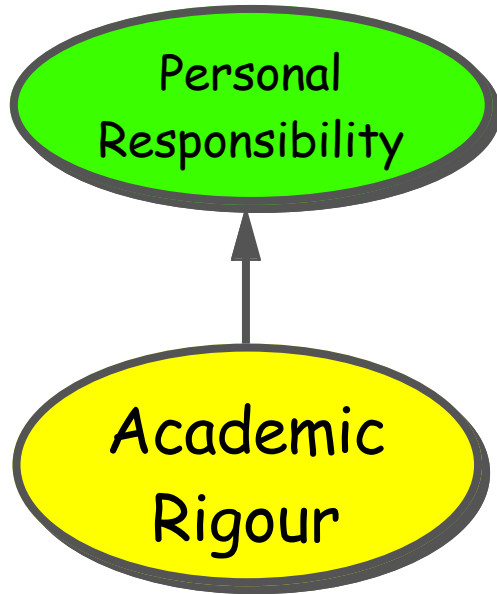
This is at the heart of learning.

We used to say that a student needed a well developed “crap detector”--crap being something worthless.



Need to set high standards, but not so high that you burn yourself out or get discouraged.

Need to see challenges as opportunities to learn & grow as an intelligent person.



Don't externalize responsibility.

Professors don't "give" marks; you earn them.

Understand what is expected. If something isn't clear, ask.

Don't make excuses.

You have a right to expect to be treated fairly, but you have no right to expect a professor to give you marks. You have to do your part.
