Being an RIT Orchestra player: Expectations

I. ATTENDANCE
   A. Be at every rehearsal. If you have to miss—
      1. Notify conductor and your section leader well in advance.
      2. Make sure your music gets into the folder cabinet.
      3. If you're a wind/brass player, get a sub.
      NB: A lot of time is spent planning rehearsals to be as efficient as possible. This includes planning specific rehearsal times on specific parts. Your missing a rehearsal or not telling the conductor of a conflict well in advance defeats such planning. Don't do it.
   B. Be in your seat ready to play before the class begins.
      1. Tune using a tuner
      2. Play through your music, especially parts we have rehearsed and fixed.
   C. Dress rehearsals and Performances: Be there at least 20-30 minutes before. See B.1&2.

II. REHEARSAL ETIQUETTE
   A. As soon as you enter the room for rehearsal (see above)—
      1. All cell phones, computers, etc., are to be turned off.
      2. Be sure you have your music in the proper order for rehearsal (check board).
      3. Be sure you have a pencil on your stand.
   B. Tuning
      1. Once the concertmaster stands to tune, all talking and practicing stops.
      2. Four A’s: brass, ww, low strings, violins. This should take about 2 minutes.
      3. Do not tune when another section is tuning. If you need another A after the process is over, raise your hand and ask.
   C. Rehearsing
      1. Once tuning is done, rehearsal begins. Be focused, no matter where we start.
         Hint: A good warm-up before rehearsal will help you focus.
      2. Always have a PENCIL to mark into your part the directions of the conductor.
      3. If the conductor says something about the music, WRITE IT INTO YOUR PART. We waste too much time going over the same things every week.
      4. Keep up with where we are. There should be no need to repeat start spots.
      5. No talking when the conductor is talking, even if addressing a different section.
      6. If you have a question, raise your hand when the orchestra has stopped and the conductor has finished talking.
      7. If you have a question for your section leader, raise your hand and let the conductor know.
      8. The more efficient the rehearsal, the more likely we will get done on time/early.
   D. Section Leaders
      1. The section leaders are responsible for their sections, and for ensuring proper rehearsal etiquette is followed.
      2. Section leaders will report to the conductor any problems in the section, including tardiness and attendance problems, failure to bring music, disruptive behavior, lack of preparation, etc., as necessary.

III. PREPARATION: Playing only at rehearsal is not sufficient for a college-level orchestra. You must prepare for every rehearsal, just as you do homework for all of your classes.
   A. Practice at least a little every day.
   B. Review what we did at the prior rehearsal at least every other day, just by looking over the music.
   C. Listen to the pieces we are performing. They are available on Naxos Music Library
      1. From campus: http://rit.naxosmusiclibrary.com
      3. Click Playlists, then Ruhling Courses, then RIT Orchestra for the quarter.