Study Skills Principles in a Nutshell

University of Delaware UNIV113
STUDY SKILLS PRINCIPLES IN A NUTSHELL: THE PATH TO SUCCESS

AT THE BEGINNING OF EACH COURSE
Check it out thoroughly

• Read the syllabus for cues to learn:
  • The professor’s expectations
  • how you are assessed
  • where you can go for resources
• SET GOALS FOR YOURSELF FOR THIS COURSE

See also: OAE, Math Tutorial Lab, Writing Center, Goal-setting workshop
BEFORE EACH CLASS:
Get prepared

- Read the related text (at least *skim*)
- Have questions ready (*why & how*, more than *what*)
- Review prior material: get a sense of context for the material coming up

See also: Reading workshop
http://www.udel.edu/AEC-workshop/note/index.html
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DURING EACH CLASS:
Participate wholeheartedly

- Sit close, be alert: *active listening is key.*
- **TURN TECH OFF** (if taking notes on laptop, keep other programs closed)
- Ask clarifying questions, answer questions from professor
- Pay attention, absorbing and thinking about the information being shared—refrain from multitasking!
- Take notes in your own words: process as you write it down, noting relationships when you can

See also: Note-taking workshop
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AFTER EACH CLASS:  
Process and refine

• **ASAP, review and refine notes**, using information from text, classmate(s), professor/TA for clean-up
• **Create study materials** (*Cornell provides a good framework*)
  • Outline the highlights: key terms/definitions/rules; key concepts
  • Integrate notes with text, other materials (handouts, readings, online resources...)

See also:  
Note-taking workshop  
Studying Strategies workshop
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ONGOING:
Integrate and practice

• Test your knowledge of concepts
• Create possible test questions (why & how vs. what)
• Integrate with earlier material: how do the pieces fit, how does the course build knowledge?
• Solve practice problems in math/science courses (repeatedly)
• Think critically: test your assumptions (office hours, tutor, other students, practice tests...)

See also: Studying Strategies workshop
Test-taking workshop
Putting the pieces together this semester:

**BEFORE CLASS**
- Check it out thoroughly

**DURING CLASS**
- Get prepared
- Participate wholeheartedly

**AFTER CLASS**
- Process and refine
- Integrate and practice

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The Path To Success

\[ f(x) = \sqrt{y} \]