

# Studying: Study tips

*Need help studying for an exam? Use this toolkit to discover different study tips.*

## Set your environment

- The environment in which you study can have a big impact on how you retain information. Choose a quiet place to study so that you can focus, or consider utilizing white noise.
- Make sure you have all the materials you will need before starting.
- We recommend studying at the Library, the Resnick Student Union or the University Student Union.

★ *Where is a good place for you to study?*



## Find your learning preference

- Studying using a method that best aligns with your learning preference can help you understand and retain the information more effectively.
- If you're not sure which learning preference you match with best, refer to the Multiple Pathways of Learning Strategies toolkit.

## Manage your time

- Schedule your study time in advance; having time blocked off ahead of time will hold you accountable.
- Make it a routine to preview the topic before lecture and review afterwards.
- Increase the amount of time set aside for studying as your exam nears.

★ *Use this time to block off study sessions in your agenda/calendar.*

## Utilize interleaved practice

- When reviewing related concepts, alternate between them instead of focusing solely on one concept.
- This can help you by forcing you to engage more deeply with each topic as you notice differences and similarities.

## Use an imaginary audience

- Teaching material to other students or an imaginary audience can be a good way to check for understanding of a topic.

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## Read actively

- After reviewing material, come up with different types of questions that you would like to answer based on headings, figures, and italicized text.
- Read only the first paragraph and summarize that paragraph into your own words. Now read the second paragraph and summarize the first and second paragraphs together and so forth.
- When reading, highlight, create flashcards or create concept maps to get a better understanding of the material.

## Take notes by hand

- Writing notes by hand during lecture can help you actively engage in the class.
- If you feel you do not have enough time in class to write out your notes, consider re-writing your typed notes at home as a way to study.

## Do the homework without an example

- Doing the homework without looking at answered problems is one of the most effective ways to check your understanding of the topic. Consider trying the problem on your own first to test your knowledge.
- This strategy can also be used when creating and taking practice exams.

## Work in pairs or groups

- Working ingroups can provide you with a chance to learn from your classmates, and will encourage you to show up to study sessions.
- You can take this time to teach others, or check for your own comprehension of a topic.

## Utilize resources

- Take advantage of all the resources available to you, even if they are not required.
- Using the textbook and publisher resources can be especially helpful.
- Utilize additional online resources such as [Khan Academy](#) to better understand topics.
- Come to the [Learning Center](#) for tutoring and Supplemental Instruction.

★ *What day(s)/ time(s) are Tutoring held for my classes? If applicable, what day(s)/ time(s) are Supplemental Instruction (SI) held?*



***My commitment is...***