



## Prepare for Success

Know yourself: study when and where you are most alert. See *"Finding the best place to study"*

Plan your time with a schedule and calendar. See *"Weekly and monthly calendars"*

## Preview

Identify relevant text or notes.

Scan chapter headings, keywords and diagrams; read chapter intro/summary.

Formulate questions you want to answer.

## A strategic approach to learning

### Distribute practice

Spend 2-3 hours studying outside of class for every hour in class—but spread your studying out over time with shorter, more frequent sessions. Try to avoid study marathons!

### Balance input/output

How are you taking in information (by listening to lecture, reading)? Balance these activities with opportunities to produce the content you're learning (by writing, speaking, drawing). That will give you practice for the actual test.

## Attend Class, Read

Listen or read actively; find answers to your questions.

Consider a note-taking system. See *"Cornell note-taking"*

Synthesize lecture and reading material.

## Review

Fill in gaps and correct misunderstandings; resources include your TA, professor, other students, and the textbook.

Put main ideas of lectures and readings into your own words.

## Create

Organize your information into different formats: outlines, charts, diagrams, flashcards, timelines, flowcharts.

Use structures that show relationships within/between material: similarities, differences, comparisons, hierarchies, and chronologies.

## Test

Arrive early with all necessary materials.

Use appropriate test-taking strategies.

Analyze returned tests. See *"Post-test Analysis"*

## Self-Test

Create possible test questions, keeping in mind different levels of learning. See *"Levels of Learning"*

Trade and discuss your questions with a partner and/or a group.