

- **Seek out your instructor outside of class** when you need additional help, and come prepared to ask specific questions. Ideally, have your questions written out ahead of time. This will make the time with your instructor more productive.

- **Try to make up catchy phrases** to remember difficult things in class.

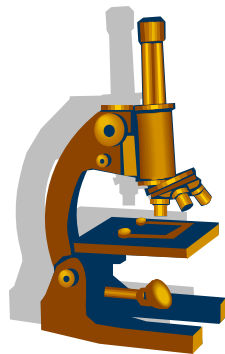
- **Try to think of possible test questions.** Quiz yourself and try to answer the questions without looking at your notes.

- **Seek tutoring** if you have difficulty reading the material, understanding the lectures, or taking the exams.

- **Make the most of lab time.** Know in advance what procedure you will be doing and come prepared. Also, use this time to increase your knowledge by interacting with other students.

DO NOT WAIT UNTIL THE NIGHT BEFORE TO STUDY FOR AN EXAM!!

Also, do not study while listening to music (unless it has no lyrics) or while watching TV. Find a nice, quiet place to study. Don't forget to turn off the cell phone and computer!!!



TIPS FOR TAKING SCIENCE EXAMS

- **Know the formulas.** Make sure you memorize them and if needed, **write them down on your exam** as soon as you have the opportunity. This will allow you to refer to them during the exam.

- **Draw a picture.** If you get stuck during the exam, try drawing a detailed picture to help you work through the answer.

- **Check your work** as you go. Make sure you followed the directions and used the correct formulas.

Recruitment, Retention, & Tutorial Services

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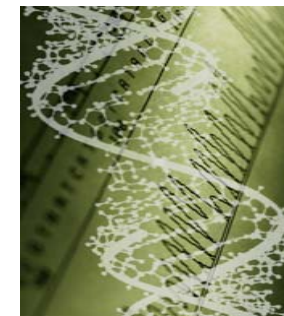
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HOW TO READ AND STUDY THE SCIENCES



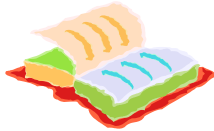
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In science courses, your textbook is your most valuable tool. Lectures will provide a synopsis of the text, but it is crucial to know the assigned reading from your textbook.

READING SCIENCE TEXTBOOKS



- **Read slowly** and with the goal of understanding what is being discussed. Read assigned materials before and after the class period in which the material is discussed (check your course syllabus for dates).
- Start by **reading the summary and review questions** at the end of the section/chapter.
- Pay attention to the **words in bold**. They are often discussed in class!
- Read the main **headings and subheadings**.
- **Study diagrams and pictures** and take note of labeled parts. Re-draw and re-label to test yourself.

- Write down on **index cards** vocabulary words, symbols, formulas, and processes.
- Read the **caption** under any illustrations.
- After you read a detailed paragraph or study a diagram, stop and take your eyes off the text. **Try to recall** what you have just read/studied. If you cannot recall all or most of it, **go back and read it again** until you are able to recall most of the information.
- **Answer all questions at the end of the section/chapter**. If there are things that you are still uncomfortable with, reread that section of the chapter.

MAKING THE MOST OF LECTURE TIME

- **Take as many notes** as you can during a lecture or seminar. Use your textbook to add to sections that are elaborated upon. Draw pictures and write out definitions. **Know your notes backwards and forwards!!**
- **Highlight** things the instructor

took time to draw out on the board or go through step by step.

- **Bring colored pencils to make drawings** with during class. These diagrams will stand out in your notes and make studying more interesting!
- **Read through your lecture and seminar notes at least once a day!** Make it a post-class time or evening time ritual!
- If time permits, **rewrite your notes** after each class period.
- **Make questions & answer cards** on difficult material or definitions. Take these **index cards** with you everywhere and study them when you are waiting with nothing to do, like standing in line or stuck in traffic.

GENERAL STUDY TIPS

- **Find a study partner!** Things are more likely to be remembered when you have to explain something out loud to another person.

