LEARNING STYLES

Recognizing your learning style can help you identify your individual strengths. All of us learn, but, often, in different ways.

School and study strategies:

• Once you know your learning style, you can develop study habits and behaviors in class that will maximize your learning potential.

Class:

• Pay attention in class (you may miss an important concept if you do not).
• If you miss class, get the notes from a reliable source.

Reading:

• Preview before reading by looking at titles, subtopics and conclusions or summaries.
• Ask questions about the reading - write them down (in the text or in your notes).
• Read to find answers for your questions - highlight/write down the answers.
• Read each chapter at least twice.
• Pay attention to bold-faced words, introductions, headings, subheadings, summaries and reviews.
• Do example problems in the chapter while you are reading.
• Try to orally explain the process to yourself.
• To understand solutions better, write out each step in plain English; this will help you to review.

Problem solving:

• Do all of the problems assigned when they are assigned.
• Read problems carefully (determine what is being asked).
• Be neat.
• Write down pertinent materials (the formula, equations, a diagram, etc.).
• Solve.
• Ask yourself, “Is the answer reasonable?”
• Teach the process to someone else (we retain 90% of what we attempt to teach others).

See other side to discover what type of learner you are >>>>>>

For more information, visit or call your nearest Rutgers Learning Center, or visit our website: http://rlc.rutgers.edu

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**What type of learner are you?**

**Auditory learners:** You need to hear yourself say something in order to commit it to memory.

- Study with friends and discuss the material, drill each other (back & forth).
- Study on the phone with a friend.
- Describe to a friend/study partner what you learned in class or how to work through a problem.
- Sit near the front and listen carefully, or use a tape recorder in class.
- Quiz yourself aloud on homework and prior to an exam.
- Put facts, dates, definitions into a song, rap, or rhythm.
- Read aloud (maybe into a tape recorder)-play it back to review.
- Buy or rent educational tapes, or tapes of books you’re reading for your courses.

**Visual learners:** You need to see, watch, and make visual associations.

- Use index cards to quiz yourself on bold-faced words, key facts, key equations, etc. (colored flash cards can help organize levels) - illustrate concepts with pictures.
- Use highlighters to emphasize ideas, key terms, and phrases (But don't highlight until after you have read.)
- Take notes/draw pictures while listening.
- Look at and/or develop lists, graphs, pictures, and charts to organize information visually (look at graphs, the periodic chart, pictures of orbitals, etc.)
- Rent classic films and films with historical plots or geographic settings which correspond with your studies.
- "Picture" in your mind what you are learning (make mental images).
- Give yourself large spaces to write notes.
- Buy bright colored folders.
- Draw pictures and diagrams associated with what needs to be remembered.
- Use mapping techniques.

**Tactile learners:** You learn by becoming physically involved in the learning process and actually doing something.

- Draw timelines, maps, illustrations, and diagrams of ideas to organize information.
- Experiment with non-disturbing ways to “move” in class, such as doodling or squeezing an eraser.
- Work through problems.
- Draw illustrations and diagrams of ideas to organize information.
- Change positions often when reading, and take short frequent breaks that require an activity.
- Pace/move while reading or memorizing.
- Walk around the room while you quiz yourself from note cards.
- Write notes/highlight while listening. You need to draw/write; do something in class.