

Learning from Lectures

Get the most out of your lectures by following these 3 simple steps

1. Come Prepared
2. Take Part in Class
3. Review your lecture

Before the lecture: Coming Prepared

Don't go to the lecture clueless, instead, get a good idea about what the lecture is about. Doing this primes your brain for more effective learning.

- Keep a copy of the course syllabus at hand and make sure you know how the lecture fits within the course as a whole
- Ask yourself what you already know about the topic, how it relates to previous lectures, other courses, or personal experiences
- Do preliminary reading relevant to the topic, even a simple google search can turn up very helpful
- Write down questions that you might have about this topic

Did you know: Priming your brain for learning a new topic by connecting it to prior knowledge significantly increases your chances of remembering the information in the future?

During the lecture: Taking Part

- Listen actively, pay attention to the lecturer, and reflect on his/her words
- Ask questions to clarify when you need to
- Participate in in-class activities and discussions
- Look out for cue words indicating important points & structures and note these down
- Take brief notes covering main themes and key arguments, don't write everything

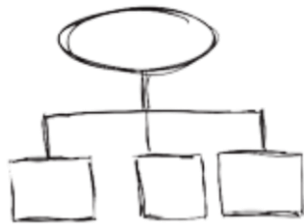
[Effective Note Taking & Checklist for Activating Note Taking](#)

After the lecture: Review (Within a few days)

- Go back to your pre-lecture questions and see if they were answered

Reflect on your learning:

1. What are 2 things you learned during this session?
2. What concepts from today's class did you find difficult to understand?
3. Specifically, what will you do to improve your understanding of the concepts that were difficult?



- Read through and correct your notes soon after the lecture
- File your notes neatly along with other relevant material – Draw a mind map!

“Did you know 70% of the information is forgotten within 1 week if you don't put in effort to recall it? Learn about the forgetting curve by watching [this video](#)“

To learn more about Effective Reading and Note-Taking – check out our self-paced online module ([Effective Reading and Note Taking](#)), for more information about Academic Success Skills please enroll in our self-paced course Academic Success on the E-learning: Engineering, ICS, Energy Engineering, Arts & Design – Enroll [here](#) BAEPS, MMC, law, Arts & Humanities – Enroll [here](#) Dentistry, Pharmacy, and Nursing- Enroll [here](#), or visit our [Academic Success Skills Page](#).

Related Resources: [Effective Note Taking– Checklist for Activating Note Taking](#)

You can download this Study Guide [Learning From Lectures](#)