The study activities will allow you to use and teach the information that you have heard and read. An ideal or perfect study strategy does not exist. You must find and create the connection between different teaching styles and your learning style.

Teaching Styles

Teaching style will influence how you learn material. There are many different types of teaching styles that students adapt to and learn the best methods of listening, note taking, and studying. The most common teaching methods are textbook, jumper, creator, and paper chase.

Here are a few characteristics of each style of teaching and suggestions for ways that you can adapt to them:

1. Textbook – a style that follows the textbook chapter-by-chapter. Make sure you buy the textbook and bring it to every lecture. Notes are made on any additions or clarifications of the text material, charts, tables, and other content from the textbook. Make a mark or check as a guide to the material you need to study and learn. It’s easy to read ahead as well as review material before attending each lecture.

2. Jumper - a style that follows the content of the textbook but jumps from one chapter to another part of the textbook and then back again. The jumper is harder to follow so take good notes so you can keep track of the topics covered and in what sequence. If there is outside reading, preview the material before attending class; otherwise, you will find it harder to follow the instructor’s path.

3. Creator – a style follows the content of the textbook but also includes material from outside sources. Those sources may include journals, newspapers, Internet articles, CD information, books, dictionaries, encyclopedias, and more. The outside material is used to create or reflect the personal views of the instructor, which may be the same as the textbook but explained in a slightly different way. Keep very good notes and always read the textbook and preview outside resource material before class. The diversity of material requires more time for reading of terms, content, and concepts, yet this practice helps solidify your learning.
4. Paper chase – a style that gathers information from many sources and presents them in different ways. Usually the material is from recent journal publications, books, and the Internet. Independent learning and research are expected. Good notes are important as well as previewing and understanding outside reading material. Usually an assigned textbook is used as a reference. This type of class is very challenging for beginning college students, yet it is one of the most rewarding.

Computers and the Internet are beginning to change the role of some instructors in higher education. These instructors are assuming the role of facilitator in the learning process rather than lecturer. The students form study groups and assume the responsibility of researching and learning the material. As this is completed, students then take the role of teacher and teach each other.