

Characteristics of Successful Students

Active Learning—be involved in the process of learning

1. Engage in learning and problem solving strategies and activities (know what you don't know)
 - a. Flash cards
 - b. Chapter notes
 - c. Tape recorder
 - d. Review notes before and after class
2. Actively Read texts
 - a. Preview
 - b. Annotate
 - c. Summarize/Use Graphic Organizers/Take Notes
3. Predict exam questions based upon topics covered in class
4. Work on difficult assignments and subjects when you are most alert
5. Create "study buddy" groups

Organization—stay ahead of the game

1. Check the syllabus regularly for policies and procedures
2. Check the outline of assignments daily for homework and major assignment due dates
3. Overview the units and what will be covered in the class. Evaluate how that coordinates with the texts for the class.
4. Make note of test dates on a calendar
5. Keep track of assignments in a planner and list daily tasks
6. Check Blackboard regularly for updates, announcements changes, grades, etc.
7. Schedule in study time as work hours, accounting for Carnegie Units
8. Prioritize time based upon their percent weight or relevance to major/career

Responsibility—be responsible for your own learning

1. Ask questions and use the instructor's office hours
2. Pay attention to the details
3. Attend class regularly and keep track of any absences and missed material
4. Actively participate in activities and try to sit near the front to stay engaged
5. Don't assume your instructor will notify you of missed assignments
6. Practice academic integrity
7. Keep open communication with your instructor, even in larger classes
8. Use the Learning Assistance Program (LAP) for tutoring

TO THE STUDENT:

LEARN MORE....

If you would like to learn more about any of the skills, strategies, or habits mentioned on this list, schedule an appointment with the [LRC](#) (Learning Resource Center Tutoring Services), where an instructional assistant will demonstrate how you can adopt the "Characteristics of Successful Students." Visit LRC Tutoring in LRC 212 to schedule your appointment! Do it today!

ALSO....

The Saddleback College Reading Lab, staffed by College instructors, provides instruction and assistance in textbook reading and study strategies. The Reading Lab is located in LRC 215. You can also access self-paced videos on a variety of topics such as annotation, mapping, memorization and test taking strategies by selecting the [Student Success link](#) on the [Reading Department homepage](#).