

EXAM PREPARATION

STUDY METHODS

When you study for an exam, consider the following:

1. Study in a quiet place, preferably in the same place every day. The study place should have bright lighting, normal temperature, and should be free from distractions.
2. Use your preferred *sensory mode*. If you are a *visual* learner, make diagrams, charts, flowcharts, and other visual aids. If you prefer *auditory* techniques, try reading and reciting information aloud. If you are a *kinesthetic/ tactile* learner, try reciting as you engage in a physical activity such as walking or jogging.
3. Check your notes to determine if there are any gaps. If there are, check with another student or the teacher to make sure notes are completed.
4. Organize your notes and other information. Suggested methods might include: use different colored highlighters or markers to organize your information; underline major headings in red, or box off segments of information to be learned at one time in colored pen; make flashcards and use them to study specific terms or vocabulary (word on the front, definition on the back)
5. When reading through notes or your textbook, use *active* reading techniques such as highlighting, underlining, outlining, summarizing, and note-taking in the margins. An outline is one of the most effective study tools.
6. Review your textbook and notes thoroughly and make separate notes of the material that you think is most critical and most heavily emphasized (ex: key terms, formulas, principles, lists of things.) Condense into a few pages of true *focus points*. Review these intensely several times and make sure you understand them.
7. Write out a practice test. Try to include questions you think the teacher will ask on the real test and write the answers. Then check your answers.