

Study Skills

Active Studying

Passive Study	Active Study
Using only one of your senses to study	Involving as many senses as you can to study
Familiarizing yourself with content, not understanding	Developing a deep understanding of content
Memorization of info in the order it was presented	Connecting topics across chapters/units
Helps if professor presents info in the same language, order, and expects you to use it in the same way	Helps with actual exams where you need to use information in different contexts, recognize it with different language, and see it out of order

Examples:

Material to Study	Passive Studying	Active Studying
Lecture Notes	Re-reading notes	Identify main points & explain in your own words (See <i>Note Taking</i> handouts)
Assigned Text or Articles	Just read	Change chapter headings into questions & look for answers as you read (See <i>SQ3R</i> handout)
Assigned Problems & Exercises	Try to solve while looking at examples from class	Try to solve by yourself first; then look at examples to check
PowerPoint Slides	Print out and just read	Print it out, write possible test questions in the margin & quiz yourself
Lab Reports	Re-read answers	Go to the lab & quiz yourself while looking at models/materials.

