

Study Skills for Chemistry Students

Before Class

Look at the learning objectives on the syllabus.

Preview the text.

Try to predict what's important.

Read the text. Highlight or take notes.

Review your notes from the previous class period.

Do the problems in the textbook.

During Class

Use a notetaking system, such as the Cornell method.

Use a three-ring binder.

Write down your instructor's explanations along with the problems you copy from the board or Power Point.

Organize your notes by topic according to your syllabus.

Place handouts with the appropriate class notes.

Ask questions about the problems in the textbook.

After Class

Review lecture notes within 24 hours or you will forget 60 to 70 % of what you heard.

Fill in the gaps in your notes.

Rework board or Power Point problems and practice solving from a different variable.

Analyze your equations and diagrams by comparing them to the text.

Make corrections or editions. Rewrite.

Read your notes aloud.

During the Week

Do all the problems from the textbook. Note questions to ask in class.

Review text material you have already read.

Take a concept, such as "equilibrium." Think about everything involved with equilibrium conditions. Generate questions about all the relationships involved.

Use memory techniques for formulas.

Meet and study in groups.

Use the tutoring services in the Center for Academic Success.

End of the Week

Continually rework problems. Practice, practice, practice.

Test yourself. Use questions from:

1. Problems you missed and examples from class.
2. The end of the chapter.
3. The concept questions you created.
4. The formulas.
5. Your class notes.

Group Study

Agree upon a procedure.

Possible activities:

1. Compare notes.
2. Work and explain problems, especially additional problems than those assigned.
3. Predict test questions.
4. Review text to highlight areas cover in lecture or lab.

After the Test and Quizzes:

Always correct your errors.

Work with the instructor, Center for Academic Success tutor, or other students.

Keep a file of problems missed to study for the midterm and final.

If you need help incorporating any of these study ideas, call the **Center for Academic Success** at 217-786-2396.

All CAS services are FREE!