



# Exam Preparation

## 10 Skills for Success

### Write and Recite

Too many university students spend time “studying”, but forget to assess comprehension or memory. Here are a few active strategies to help you prepare for quizzes and/or exams:

**1: Make flashcards and then quiz yourself.** Write your notes by hand, or use one of several online sites to create your own electronic flashcards.

**2: Organise material visually into a mind-map.** If you are a visual learner, draw a mind-map that connects concepts and ideas to one another in a logical way.

**3: Listen/ watch lectures again.** Revising lecture recordings not only allow you to hear and see explanations multiple times, but you may pick up on verbal cues from the lecturer (i.e. “This is important”).

**4: Tell/ teach someone else.** Verbalise what you know. Better yet, explain it to someone. Research shows students retain 90% of what is learned through teaching others.

**5: Rewrite your notes.** Reorganise the material into categories.

**6: Identify your problem areas.** Take advantage of consultation hours. If there is a concept you aren't comfortable with, ask the lecturer or your tutor for additional assistance.

**7: Practice active reading.** Scan section headings. Highlight (or take notes) modestly. Use short phrases, lists, or bulletpoints to help trigger your memory. Ask yourself, “Is this important”?

**8: Know the test format.** Multiple choice? Essay? Short answer? Know what to expect going in to an assessment so you can prepare accordingly.

**9: Start reviewing early.** And do it often. Repetition helps solidify concepts.

**10: Don't cram!**