

## **“Tips on Why, When, Where and How” to Study**

### Why develop Study Skill?

Because the more efficiently you study, the less time it will take. Since the amount of homework has increased since high school, it is important that this time be used wisely. Study skills are not inherent, they must be learned. Once a student discovers which techniques work best for them, these must be practiced until they become habit.

### When is the best time to study?

This differs depending on the individual and their success with time management.

Briefly:

Have a regular set schedule.

Use time between classes.

Be sure you are studying during your most “productive” time of day.

It is better to have shorter, more focused time periods than long and tedious sessions.

If you need to adjust your set time for studying, it is important to make up those hours.

### Where do you study at your best?

There are a few absolute conditions necessary to create the best study conditions.

Does your study area:

Have a desk or table?

Is it clear of distractions (TV, video games, loud music etc.)?

There needs to be good lighting and proper temperature (68 to 72 degrees).

Can you assertively tell people that you don’t wish to be interrupted?

You need to have all needed materials (dictionary, paper, calendar, pencils) handy.

Have a memo or scratch pad available for thoughts or tasks that come to mind while you are studying. Jot these down and forget them so you won’t be distracted from task at hand.

### Who studies with you?

There is much debate over studying alone or in a group. This is a very individual decision. Groups have been proven to produce positive results, especially in classes like Calculus or reviewing for tests. Students must be cautious about doing all their studying with others. It can produce a sense of false security, relying on others knowledge, rather than your own. Group studying works best when you have prepared before you meet as a group and then “test” your knowledge with the others. Be sure the group is not too large, has guidelines, and made up of responsible students. You also must be comfortable asking questions when you need clarification.

### How to study – helpful hints.

Flashcards with definitions and equations.

Review material within two days of when it was taught.

If ever given the opportunity to do extra credit, DO IT!

Appearance of homework and tests can sometimes make a huge difference in grade received.

Study your hardest material first.

After trying to conquer an assignment for about an hour and making no progress, get some help.

If you lose your concentration, take a break and come back to refocus.

### Class Savvy

Go to class.

Go to class prepared.

Know the ‘vocabulary’.

Be a participating listener.

Sit up front.

Take notes efficiently.

Keep your focus.

**REMEMBER, LEARNING IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY!!!**

