



Active Learning: Getting the most out of class

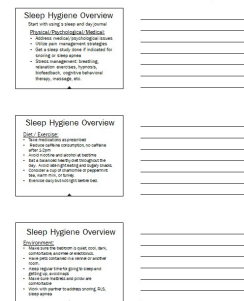
1) Read the objectives first!

Begin each new week or module by first reading the objectives. This will prime the brain for what you are looking for. It is also a good overview of the materials you will be covering. Begin to ask yourself, "What do I already know? What am I missing? How does the material fit in with this semester focus?"

For papers or assignments, read through the instructions and rubric while highlighting details. Make your outline of how you will do the assignment.

2) Print the PPT slides.

Three slides to a page with lines for taking notes on the right side.



As you read through the slides, turn each slide into a question and write that above the slide to use for self-quizzing later.

3) The textbook is not optional; read it!

Reading the textbook creates the context, depth, and breadth you need for the lecture. Faculty talk about highlights with the assumption you have done your work by reading the textbook.

Once you know what you are looking for from the objectives and have been given more direction by going over the PPT, you are ready to tackle the textbook.

Begin by skimming; look at the headings, pictures, charts, and highlighted sections. Then read the end-of-chapter summary and questions. Now go back to the beginning of the chapter. As you read the first few sentences of each paragraph, decide to skim or read based on what you are looking for. Take Cornell notes on what you read!

4) In class; listen, ask questions, and take notes.

Be prepared to ask for clarification of any questions you have.

Use the PPT slide handouts to take hand-written notes. Only record what is not already on the slide or in your textbook notes.