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## Tips for Test Success

Successful students do well on exams because they know what to do before, during, and after the test.

### Before the test

- \* Attend all classes.
- \* Complete all required reading.
- \* Organize study time by planning daily, weekly, and major review sessions.
- \* Form a study group by looking for two or three other conscientious students. Activities for a study group include making up practice tests, comparing notes, etc.
- \* Create study tools such as content maps, flash cards, annotated texts, etc. Predict test questions and test yourself. Recite information aloud. Ask your professor for specific information about the test.
- \* Reduce test anxiety by maintaining a balanced schedule including exercise, a healthy diet, and adequate rest. Learn relaxation techniques.
- \* Be prepared! Remember, preparing for an objective test is different than preparing for an essay test.

### During the test

- \* Arrive a few minutes early so you can make sure you have all required materials and so you can relax briefly before the test starts.

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If this was helpful you can get more useful information by taking a **Learn 11** class.

- \* Use time wisely.
- \* Read directions and questions carefully.
- \* Know the rules. For example, are there time limits, penalties for guessing, etc.? Make an attempt to answer all questions unless there are penalties for guessing.
- \* Look for clues. Sometimes answers are hinted at on other test questions.
- \* Use different strategies for different types of tests, like essay or objective tests.

### **After the test**

Evaluate your own performance by answering the following questions:

1. Which part of the exam was the easiest? Why?
2. Which part of the exam was the hardest? Why?
3. List activities you completed prior to the exam? (i.e., review lecture notes, self-testing, study groups, etc.)
4. Which of the above activities did you find the most helpful in preparing for the exam?
5. How much time (in hours) did you spend preparing for the exam?
6. Did you feel prepared when you walked into this exam? Why or why not?
7. How might you study differently for the next exam in this course?

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