Active Study

The key to studying actively is staying engaged with course material. This means staying focused and really thinking about and trying to make sense of what you’re reading or studying.

- Review your notes and rewrite them in your own words. Reorder or reorganize them, using symbols, numbers, pictures, or charts… this helps give them meaning and make them your own.

- Transfer key concepts, vocabulary, formulas or any material to be memorized to flashcards. Review regularly (several times a week) and be sure to take the time to think/figure it out before flipping the card to look at the answer.

- Make sure you understand all new material. If you don’t, take the time to figure it out right away. Ask a classmate or jot down your question and bring it to your professor, TA, or tutor.

- Test yourself. Can you apply the concepts and solve problems? Do a few sample problems or start the homework that same day. Work problems without looking at solutions and don’t give up too soon!

- Practice and reinforce your learning by taking a few minutes to explain new material to a classmate without looking in your notes.