

COLLABORATIVE LEARNING STRATEGIES FOR STUDY GROUPS

Study groups provide opportunities for students to learn with and from other peers. Plan ahead for each study session by setting up materials/technology needed, sharing documents, and other study activities needed before meeting. Use some of the ideas below for study activities with your group to stay on task and make the most of each study session!

Activities to develop understanding through identifying and understanding concepts	Activities to apply knowledge through elaborating and making connections	Activities to demonstrate mastery through explanations, practice, and active recall
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ Identify which concepts made sense and those that were confusing. Clarify the muddy points with one another! ❑ As a group, list all the concepts learned throughout the semester. Have each person choose a concept to explain/teach to the group ❑ Develop a list of key concepts and terms as a group. Divide them up between each member. Come back and share together the notes with one another ❑ Read a section of the textbook or watch a video relating to the concept; have each person describe it in their own terms ❑ Have one group member work through the steps of a practice problem; have another member explain each step to the rest of the group; switch roles with different group members ❑ Have each person identify and share a real life example of a certain concept ❑ Have each member explain different diagrams, graphs, or other graphics aloud to one another ❑ Fill out a table or concept map with key terms, definitions, and examples ❑ On a shared document, combine notes to create a full outline of important concepts learned in class 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ Make connections between concepts on shared documents; create outlines, concept maps, venn diagrams, etc. ❑ Quiz each other using information from the textbook, homework, or study guides. Analyze the results and figure out which concepts your group needs more focus on ❑ Work individually on the same practice problems for a few minutes. Compare answers and your problem-solving process to one another. Remember to ask questions! ❑ Have each person teach a different concept without using their notes. Listen carefully and help one another out if needed to add depth to understanding. ❑ Write out steps in a process. For each step, have someone explain the rationale for the step and position in the sequence. ❑ Have each person draw an important diagram or visual. Have another person add detail and explain the visual. ❑ Have one person speak/write a sentence about a concept. Go around the group, with each person adding a new sentence and elaborating on the concept. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ Have each person write or predict exam questions. Trade questions with one another and practice answering them ❑ Create shared slides or quizzes. Put prompts on slides and answers in the notes area. Mix up the slides/questions from different lectures for cumulative practice. ❑ When answering questions, explain your rationale and answer the question, “How do I know?” ❑ Explain why the correct answer is correct, but also explain why other answers are incorrect. ❑ List out key concepts. For each, identify ways/activities you could do to demonstrate a full understanding. Complete the activities to confirm understanding ❑ After the exam, reflect upon the activities you completed and how you studied. Create a revised study plan for the next exam if needed.