

Learning Styles

Every student learns in his/her own individual way; therefore, it is helpful to understand a few of the general learning styles that people operate on in order to provide them with specific tutoring help or guidance. It is rare that any individual will operate by only one learning style.

The Learning Styles

Active Learners

- ▶ Tend to retain and understand information best by doing something active with it.
- ▶ Like to try something out to see how it works.

Study Skills for Active Learners

- ▶ Study in groups
- ▶ Do something with the information

Reflective Learners

- ▶ Prefer to think about things
- ▶ Tend to like working alone

Study Skills for Reflective Learners

- ▶ Write short summaries of readings & notes.
- ▶ Review what you've read periodically.
- ▶ Don't simply memorize material

Sensing Learners

- ▶ Tend to like learning facts
- ▶ Like to solve problems with established methods

Study Skills for Sensing Learners

- ▶ Find specific examples of material
- ▶ Connect concepts to real world practice

Intuitive Learners

- ▶ Tend to like innovation and dislike repetition
- ▶ Don't like "plug-and-chug" courses that involve memorization and routine calculation.

Study Skills for Intuitive Learners

- ▶ Ask for theories that link facts
- ▶ Find connections between facts

Visual Learners

- ▶ Work best with pictures, diagrams, flow charts, etc.

Study Skills for Visual Learners

- ▶ Find diagrams or sketches
- ▶ Color code notes

Verbal Learners

- ▶ Work best with words—written & spoken evaluation

Study Skills for Verbal Learners

- ▶ Work in groups
- ▶ Explain things to other classmates

Sequential Learners

- ▶ Gain understanding in logical, linear steps
- ▶ Follow logical step-wise paths for solutions

Study Skills for Sequential Learners

- ▶ Fill in missed links or steps if instructor skips around
- ▶ Outline lecture material

Global Learners

- ▶ Tend to learn in large jumps, absorbing material almost randomly without seeing connections, then "getting it."
- ▶ Able to solve complex problems quickly once they have put together the big picture, but have a difficult time explaining how they did it.

Study Skills for Global Learners

- ▶ Find connections in material
- ▶ Immerse yourself in subjects in large blocks of time

