Excelling in Summer Session

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Collaborative for Student Achievement
Educational Benefits

- Opportunity to improve GPA
- One or two classes at a time allows for more focus on fewer subjects
- Smaller class size allows for an enhanced learning community
- Explore a new interest
- Add to, or change, a program of study
- Gain experience through internships, research, study abroad, and experiential/field courses
Time-Saving Benefits

► Accelerate time to graduation or stay on track for graduating

► Reach the next class level:
  
  o **Sophomore** *(completion of 30 credits by end of freshmen year)*
  o **Junior** *(completion of 60 credits by end of sophomore year)*
  o **Senior** *(completion of 90 credits by end of junior year)*
  o **Completion of degree** *(120 credits or more depending on program of study)*

► Lighten course load in other semesters

► Take a class that typically has a waiting list
Financial Benefits

- **Save money:** *Graduating later requires additional living and educational expenses.*

- **Earn money sooner:** *By accelerating time to graduation, you may be able to enter the job market earlier.*

- **Tuition:** *If tuition increases, it usually increases in the fall semester.*

- **Financial Aid:** *Contact a financial aid counselor in the Office of Financial Aid to discuss your options.*

- **Summer employment and temporary, prorated student housing** are available.
Considerations for Students

- Condensed terms can make 3 credits feel like:
  - 12 credits in a 4-week term
  - 6 credits in an 8-week term
  - 4 credits in a 12-week term

- Labs are intense in an 8-week term

- You may not be able to work as much while in session

- Explore what formats work best for your learning preferences and success when deciding upon on-campus courses and online courses

- Watch out for Deadlines:
  - Nonattendance is not a “drop”!
  - Add/Drop/Withdrawal deadlines happen much sooner
How to be Successful in Summer

- Obtain your textbooks prior to the first day
- First day - be prepared to engage and seek help if needed
- Build in more time to study to keep up with the faster pace of summer courses.
- Study daily as tests occur more often; assess how long it takes you to read and understand material
- Engage every day
- Meet with faculty and form study groups
Online Course Resources

- Register through RAMweb for section 4XX, location: ONLINE
  - Participation is typically through CANVAS

- Canvas.colostate.edu - “Student Resources” include:
  - Student Guides
  - Student Videos

- TILT.colostate.edu: Learning Programs > Learning Resources > Online Study- Skill Resources
Online Learning Environment may include...

**Video**
- Recorded lectures from live, on-campus sessions for the same course you are taking
- Instructor lecture video recordings from their office or in the field
- Real-time (synchronous) sessions where you can speak with the instructor and/or fellow students via a webcam and microphone
- Videos from online sources

**Audio**
- Podcast recordings of the instructor or other narrated presentations
- Audio recordings from online sources

**Text**
- Peer-reviewed research, articles, and journals
- Blog posts
- Textbooks
- Articles from online sources
- Discussion forums

**Assessments**
- Tests and quizzes
- Projects completed individually or as part of a team
- Written, video or audio assignments
- Proctoring tools
Online Course Strategies

- Online courses are **NOT** self-paced
- Read all materials for the current unit before watching the pre-recorded video or voice-over PowerPoint
- Take notes while engaging in the lecture and take advantage of the rewind option
- Work on each course daily to retain information and stay engaged
- Speak up if you have questions or concerns
- Reach out to instructors, peers, and your advisor to get the help you need
- Talk to your academic advisor and take advantage of their advice
Summer.Colostate.edu: Student Resources

- Campus Resources:
  - Campus offices remain open in the summer

- Learning Resources:
  - Academic Advancement Center
  - Adult Learners/Veteran Services
  - Calculus Center
  - Chemistry Learning Resource Center
  - PACe Center
  - Private Tutoring Database
  - STAT Success Center
  - Writing Center
Academic Coaching (Learning Resources)

The Institute for Teaching and Learning (TILT)

- 30-minutes meeting with one of the Learning Program Coordinators Mekdelawit Desta, Jenny Kim or Stacey Clark.
- Contact mekdelawit.desta@colostate.edu to schedule a meeting within about 2 weeks time.

Collaborative for Student Achievement

- Students who are on academic probation will meet with Juan Rivas.
- Contact Juan.Rivas@colostate.edu to schedule.
What is Active Learning?

Active learning activities **help promote higher order thinking skills** such as application of knowledge, analysis, and synthesis.

Active learning activities **engage students in deep rather than surface learning**, and enable students to apply and transfer knowledge better.
Passive Approaches

- Casual Reading
- Highlighting
- Cramming
“Simply reading is not actively engaging in the material. Only ‘doing’ the readings for class is not studying. It is simply doing the reading for class. Re-reading leads to quick forgetting.”

**STUDY TIP:** It can be useful for recall and memorization. Think of it as pre-studying.
Research shows that students who highlight while reading don’t outperform students who only read, because they aren’t necessarily highlighting effectively.

**STUDY TIP:** Highlighting is most effective if you have to think about what you highlight. (ex: only 15 words per page.)
Cramming

- Attempt to study as much stuff as possible
- Pressure built-up/stress
- Limited capacity
- Lack of sleep/productivity
- Forgotten knowledge
Activity: Memory Recall

- How well can you remember something?

- Challenge
  - Put away cell phones
  - Blank piece of paper
  - Pencil or pen
  - Draw the $1 bill from memory
Ditch Your Learning Style

- Learning styles tend to box a student into a corner

- Be willing to adapt your learning style to the instructor’s teaching style

- Use other forms of learning to help you internalize information
  - “Visual” learner can also be a “Tactile” learner

- Truthfully, we use a combination of each learning style to make sense of a topic
Quizzing/Testing Yourself

- Self-Test the Information
- Create questions for items you do not yet know
  - Question Bank
  - Follow Up Questions
- Ask a peer to quiz you
Define YOUR Study Strategies
Active Learning Approaches

- Repetition
- Schedule your study
- Graphic Organizer
- Using other resources
- Spacing Effect
- Retrieval Practices
- Bloom's Taxonomy
1. Schedule Hours of Study

- **Plan Ahead**

- **Time Management**

- 3 credit course in 16 weeks
  - \( \Rightarrow \) 3 hours of class
  - \( \Rightarrow \) 6-9 hours outside the classroom

- 3 credit course in 4 weeks
  - \( \Rightarrow \) 12 hours of class
  - \( \Rightarrow \) 24-36 hours outside of the classroom

- **Formula** - each credit hour will require approximately 2-3 hours of effort per week outside of class
2. Bloom’s Taxonomy

Bloom’s Taxonomy

- **Remember**
  - Recall facts and basic concepts
  - define, duplicate, list, memorize, repeat, state

- **Understand**
  - Explain ideas or concepts
  - classify, describe, discuss, explain, identity, locate, recognize, report, select, translate

- **Apply**
  - Use information in new situations
  - execute, implement, solve, use, demonstrate, interpret, operate, schedule, sketch

- **Analyze**
  - Draw connections among ideas
  - differentiate, organize, relate, compare, contrast, distinguish, examine, experiment, question, test

- **Evaluate**
  - Justify a stand or decision
  - appraise, argue, defend, judge, select, support, value, critique, weigh

- **Create**
  - Produce new or original work
  - design, assemble, construct, conjecture, develop, formulate, author, investigate

Vanderbilt University Center for Teaching
3. Spacing Effect

- Spread out your studying “little by little over time”
- Depth understanding & retaining information
- Time spent wisely
- Schedule study time for each course
- In control of your studying
  - Less stress, more productivity (easier to avoid procrastination)
4. Pomodoro Technique

- Method developed by Francesco Cirillo

- Use a timer to break down your work intervals (i.e., I will study for two hours)
  - Break two hours of studying into 25 minute increments
  - Use a timer to keep track of the 25 minutes (focus on work not on anything else)
  - For every distraction (i.e., texting, funny videos, or memes) put a check mark on your paper
5. Retrieval Practice

- Check for understanding
- Flashcard
- Write down everything
- Test Yourself
- Study Group & Buddies
6. Graphic Organizer

- Critical Thinking
- Provide Visual
- Break Down Big Concepts

Mind Maps & Concept Maps

- MIND MAP
  - Key ideas in the centre
  - Hierarchical
  - Has key ideas
  - Connects ideas
  - Uses colour
  - Branches out
  - Use of visuals and words

- CONCEPT MAP
  - Key ideas usually at the top
  - Words placed on lines to illustrate the nature of the relationship
  - Use of words

- More easily incorporates other types of organizers
7. Repetition

- One of the most useful study strategies
- Utilize Spaced Repetition technique
8. Outside Resources

- Sometimes different phrasing, words, or visuals is all you need!

- Kahn Academy
  - Learning videos and practice problems available

- TED Ed videos

- Quizlet

- Crash Course
Homework

- Time to Apply What you have Learned!