Math Tips for Lectures

PREVIEW

Before class, preview the text material for that day...

- Read introductions and summaries
- Look at the problems at the end of the chapter
- Make note of new terms, theorems, and formulas
- Think up some questions for class

Remember that previewing is not for understanding the material, but to get a general idea of what the lecture that day might cover. Don’t spend a lot of time on previewing.

TAKE NOTES

- **Listen actively.** Intend to learn from the lecture.
- **Write down** explanatory remarks about the problems.
  - How do you get from one step to another?
  - Are there any conditions?
  - Why this approach?
  - Drawings, graphs, or charts
- **Anticipate** consequences of the theorem or next step in a problem.
- **Note** any concepts, rules, techniques, and problems that the instructor emphasizes.
- **Ask questions** about unclear concepts.

REVIEW

- **Summarize,** review, and edit your notes as soon as you can after class (within two hours).
- **Read through** your notes again for errors and omissions.
- **Fill in** any additional explanation or explanatory remarks you may have missed.
- **Add** to your notes: use the margin to summarize the material, list key terms, theorems, and formulas, and to rework examples.
- **Find relationships** between what you just learned and previous material.
- **Review your notes again** at regular intervals, with the intent to retain and learn.

Information adapted from The University of Texas Learning Center