

In the Company of Classmates: Forming a Study Group

Study groups are a great way to prepare for class and meet new people. Study groups can build a sense of belonging, create a support network, and expand your understanding of the material. By listening to a wide variety of perspectives, you will be better prepared for class discussions and exams. In your study group, you will ask each other questions, compare notes, test for memorization, brainstorm, and share ideas. While this should not be your only means of studying, study groups can be a great supplement to studying and memorizing material on your own.

Ideally, you want to select five to seven classmates who are engaged in class. Begin by approaching two to three classmates who you think would make good study partners and ask them to make additional suggestions to complete your study group. Write down everyone's names and contact information and make a copy of the list for other members of the group. You may also want to keep the contact information on your computer.

Schedule a time to meet each week. You can arrange to meet on campus at a café or lounge, or even outside, as long as there are not too many distractions. The library may even have some areas designated for group study.

Tips for Successful Group Studying

Start Early. Although it may seem too soon for studying, you should be thinking about forming a study group during the first week of class. Try to find four to seven students in each class who are interested in coming. Invite students who participate in class, take notes, ask questions, and take the class seriously.

Develop Ground Rules. A good study group is professional. That means you meet at the same time and place every week; you know what topics need to be covered; and you have decided how long the study group will meet (two to three hours is typical). The best time to study is as soon after your class as possible. Arrange a time and place that works for everyone. You may also want to discuss attendance and preparation expectations.

Assign Roles. Typical roles include discussion leader, time keeper, and note taker. Rotate roles so everyone has a chance to participate.

Know the Syllabus. Go over the syllabus during your first study group session and review important dates (e.g., project due dates, quizzes, and exams). Know where you are going and try to study ahead so you are familiar with the material before your professor covers it.

Be Prepared. Come to every study group having reviewed your notes and reading assignments.



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Deaf Interpreter available upon request. Contact : Lisa Sadowski (sadowskil@gtc.edu)

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
1 <i>Labor Day No Classes</i>	2 <i>First Day of Fall Semester</i>	3	4	5
8	9	10	11	12
15	16 USG Meeting 1:00pm Study Skills / Test Taking Strategies 11-12 Racine Erie Rm.	17 Study Skills / Test Taking Strat- egies 10-11am Burl 100 Embracing Change 10-11am Racine R306A	18 Diversity I.Q. 10-11am Elkhorn E229	19
22 Study Skills / Test Taking Strate- gies 3-4pm Kenosha S139 Time Management 1-2pm Elkhorn E229	23 Time Manage- ment 11-12pm Racine MRC 10-11am Kenosha S106w	24 <i>Employee Learning Day No Classes</i>	25 Study Skills / Test Taking Strate- gies 11-12 Elkhorn E229 Time Management 10-11am Burl 122 Diversity I.Q. 11-12pm Racine R301 Embracing Change 3-4pm Kenosha Bio 121	26
29	30 Taste of Stu- dent Life 11:00 to 3:00 Elkhorn Atrium Embracing Change 1-2pm Elk E229	October 1 - College Success Seminar, 11:00am to 4:00pm in Racine & Kenosha (transportation from Elkhorn is available) Sign up online at www.gtc.edu/collegesuccess		



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