Good Study Habits for Students

By: John Beck

With the work load of classes increasing with each passing day and finals coming in a few weeks a student can’t keep his or her head above the water for long without good study habits and the knowledge of how to avoid the traps of cramming.

Studying can take a long time and, if not done correctly, sometimes doesn’t satiate the needs of the student. Students should decide what to study and how long to study before they start and then set goals and keep them. Do the difficult tasks first and get them out of the way, and then work on the small stuff. If the harder tasks take longer than you expected then the smaller tasks will be easier to fit into that shortened time period.

Students should have some special places to study where lighting and temperature are good and all needed materials are availability. Study for fifty minutes then take a ten minute break – you’re earned it and it helps you stay productive. If you do get tired or bored, switch your tasks, subject, or environment. If you are no longer being productive, just stop studying; don’t waste your time on something that isn’t doing you any good. Hanukkah

Studying for exams can also be very stressful and time-consuming. To help study for these important evaluations, students should prepare summary sheets for large amounts of lecture and textbook notes. Spend several nights (not just the night before) reviewing the notes and summary sheets. Students should spend extra time on points emphasized in class, the textbook, and areas the professor has advised to study.

Study methods vary according to the type of exam the professor is going to give. For problem exams, students should memorize formulas if needed and practice problems similar to those that will be on the exam. For essay exams, students need to stress the concepts, list probable questions, prepare a good outline answer, and practice it. Objective exams should be studied for like essay exams with an emphasis on stressing the specifics. Define key terms and examples from the lectures and the textbook, list items and/or processes, and write some false statements about the material to become more familiar with what is wrong and what is correct.

When it comes to studying, many students just don’t know where to begin. Having too much to study and leaving too little time to do it successfully leads to trouble staying awake and cramming before tests. Students must take control of their studying and not let the studying control them. Not knowing where to begin can easily be fixed by making a list of what needs to be done and breaking down the work load into manageable chunks. Don’t skip out on classes, you might miss something important. Start studying early to ensure success this semester!
The FFEA conference is the first weekend after Spring classes begin: January 15 and 16, 2005! The location is the Trade Winds Island Grand Beach Resort on St. Petersburg Beach. The registration fee is only $65 per person and that includes Saturday breakfast and lunch and Sunday breakfast. The hotel rooms are small suites which include refrigerators and microwaves. Our chapter will be able to cover the costs of registration and hotel for up to four people through secondary funding. FEA Officers have first refusal rights. Contact John at jdbeck@fit.edu right away if you are interested in attending.

Registration begins at 8:00 Saturday morning. There will be four concurrent sessions to choose from during the day. Your evening will be free to enjoy the beautiful St. Petersburg Beach area. There are lots of great seafood restaurants within walking distance of the hotel and the Stone Crab Festival is taking place! Sunday morning begins with breakfast at 8:15 and ends around 11:00, so you will have plenty of time to drive back to campus and complete any homework due Monday morning!

The state conference provides a wonderful opportunity for chapter members to meet with fellow students and new and experienced teachers. The conference also provides an opportunity to hear from outstanding teachers and others working in the field of education as they present a shared vision of excellence in future classrooms. The workshops you attend will provide you with important information, ideas, and inspiration that will guide you as you work toward becoming a teacher.

**What do you call people who are afraid of Santa Claus?**

Claustrophobic.

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**Florida Future Educators of America**

**Annual Post-secondary and High School Conference**

**Inspiring Holiday Quotes:**

- Perhaps the best Yuletide decoration is being wreathed in smiles.
  -Unknown

- A Christmas candle is a lovely thing; It makes no noise at all, But softly gives itself away; While quite unselfish, it grows small.
  -Eva K. Logue

- He who has no Christmas in his heart will never find Christmas under a tree.
  -Sunshine Magazine

- Christmas is not a time nor a season, but a state of mind. To cherish peace and goodwill, to be plenteous in mercy, is to have the real spirit of Christmas.
  -Calvin Coolidge

- From home to home, and heart to heart, from one place to another. The warmth and joy of Christmas, brings us closer to each other.
  -Emily Matthews

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**The News Stand: What’s in This Month**

- **Presentations**
  - The Confidence Game

- **Edutopia**
  - Six Feet Wonder: a study of graveyards.

- **Mathematics Teaching in the Middle School**
  - Using Humor to Gain Mathematical Insight

- **Campus Technology**
  - Tackling the Big Questions

**Computer Lab Hours**

**Monday - Thursday**

8am – 9pm

**Friday**

8am – 5pm

Come by for cookies, cheese, and some hot cider during finals week.

**Happy New Year!**

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That’s so cold!