

Study Groups: Benefits, Tasks, & Rules

Benefits of Study Groups

- Material is better understood and retained
- Students can confirm with each other any confusing or complex subject material
- Fellow students can be a source of support and encouragement
- Opportunity to teach, not just be recipient of someone else's knowledge
- Increase in confidence in academic capability
- Opportunity to learn new study habits from peers
- Learning becomes more personally relevant and intellectually stimulating

Things to Do at Meetings:

- Establish goals and what you hope to accomplish by joining a study group
- Review lecture notes together; discuss anything you did not understand
- Discuss key concepts from lectures
- Discuss key concepts from the textbook
- Work on assignments
- Assign yourselves questions and work on them
- Study for tests or exams
- Discuss what questions you expect to be on tests and exams
- Review past exams if the professor has made them available

Ground Rules for Study Group Sessions

- Be on time and prepared
- Be respectful of others' ideas
- Have homework, study guides, sample test questions, etc. completed before session
- Have questions about material ready to discuss
- Bring class notes and textbooks to study sessions
- Determine where, when, and how often the group will meet
- Do not meet sporadically—schedule consistent weekly, bi-weekly, or monthly sessions