

Learning Styles – Visual Learners

Visual Learners rely on spatial images when learning – that is, they learn best when they can see information in their mind. Visual learners often are proficient in identifying relationships among objects and ideas. When learning information, they prefer illustrations, charts, maps, and other graphic formats including the use of color and design.

General Study Tips

- Draw pictures in notes to illustrate ideas
- Use a variety of colors (pens / highlighters) for different categories concepts
- Use plastic cover sheets with erasable markers to label diagrams over and over
- Make mind maps to look at spatial relationships
- Studying by using models when they are available to you.

Time Management Strategies

- Set up and use a weekly block schedule to create a picture of your week
- Use different colors to represent different activities, classes, assignment due dates
- Use color or symbols to identify priorities each day

Listening and Note-taking Strategies

- Before class, skim through the chapter and / or class notes and read the summary. This will assist you to see the whole picture of the lecture topic.
- During class, sit up front so that you can readily see the board, screens, or any other visual presentations.
- After class add visual emphasis by highlighting and color coding key concepts, terms, and phrases within your notes.
- Reduce your class notes by creating visual summaries, such as charts, graphs and diagrams that show the organization of information and relationship among ideas.

Reading and Study Strategies

- To help with comprehension, get an overview before reading. Look at introduction, headings and summary.
- Create visual study guides: organize text information by developing charts that list similar and different characteristics between groups of terms.
- Color code the charts and diagrams that you create.
- For terms, make colorful study cards with the term on the front and a brief explanation on the back. This strategy is most useful for the recall of terms and definitions.

Memory Strategies

- Visualize the information in your mind as you are studying. Strengthen your recall, by imagining that you see the information. This technique can be most useful when you are learning the steps in a process. Try to visualize each step of the process occurring.
- If you are having difficulty recalling a small amount of information, write this information on sticky notes and place these notes in areas that you access frequently.