STUDY TIPS

Come to class. This is probably the most effective strategy you can use to learn this material.

Practice active listening. Try to process the material as you take notes.

Ask questions. There are no dumb questions. If you have a question, others are probably also confused.

Print the outlines. There is an outline for each lecture on the web site. Print these BEFORE each class, and use them to follow the main structure of my lectures.

Take good notes. Try to write down as much information as you can, but DON’T copy the PowerPoint slides. These are available on the website. Use your own words when note-taking.

Review your notes after each class. This will help you to clarify the material and come up with questions.

Outline your notes before each exam. This will help you to organize the material and to distinguish between the main topics and the supporting information.

Read the material. Use the text to preview, and to reinforce what you are learning in class. Read with focus and concentration. Don’t have on the TV or radio, and don’t think about anything else. Structured instrumental music may help you concentrate and process information.

Review the vocabulary. I focus on processes more than vocabulary, but there are a lot of new terms that you will need to know to think effectively about this material.

Do the study guides. There is a study guide for each chapter linked on the web site. These are your guide to what the Biology Department faculty think is important.

Try to relate what you are learning to the world around you. Look around you every day and think about how you and other organisms fit into the living world.

Participate in the Supplemental Instruction sessions. You will find these sessions useful, informative and fun, and sometimes worth extra credit!

Attend Study Skills Seminars. College really *is* different! See the list of topics, dates and times on our website.

Try flashcards, study groups, published study guides, review sessions, etc… Whatever works for you!

Come to see me, or email me, or phone me. I will be happy to work with you to resolve any questions you have.

DO NOT PUT OFF STUDYING!!! We will be covering A LOT of material in this course. Don’t get behind with your preparation.