Multi-sensory Learning Strategies

Visual learners
intake information by:

Underlining
Different colors
Highlighting
Symbols
Flow charts, timelines
Charts and graphs
Pictures, videos, posters, slides

Different spatial arrangements on the page
Flashcards
Textbooks with diagrams, pictures
Lecturers who use gestures and picturesque language

SWOT – Study Without Tears, Visual learners!

- Convert your lecture notes into a learnable package by reducing them into page pictures. Use intake techniques to do this
- Reconstruct the images in different ways – try different spatial arrangements Redraw your pages from memory
- Replace words with symbols or initials

- Look at your pages

Auditory learners
intake information by:

Attending lectures
Attending tutorials
Discussing topics with other students
Discussing topics with your lecturers
Explaining new ideas to other people
Adding rhymes or tunes to your studying
Using a tape recorder

Remembering the interesting examples, stories, jokes
Describing the overheads, pictures and other visuals to someone who was not there
Leaving spaces in your lecture notes for later recall and "filling in"

SWOT – Study Without Tears, Auditory learners!

Convert your lecture notes into a learnable package in the following ways:

- Your lecture notes may be poor because you prefer to listen. You will need to expand your notes by talking with others and collecting notes from the textbook

- Put your summarized notes onto tapes and listen to them
- Ask others to "hear" your understanding of a topic
- Read your summarized notes aloud
- Explain your notes to another "auditory" person

Kinesthetic learners
intake information by using:

All your senses: sight, touch, taste, smell, hearing

Laboratories

Fields trips

Examples of principles

Lecturers who give real-life examples

Applications

Hands-on approaches (computing)

Trial and error

Collections of rock types, plants, shells, grasses

Exhibits, samples, photographs

Recipes – solutions to problems

Previous exam papers

SWOT – Study Without Tears. Kinesthetic leaners

- Convert your lecture notes by:
- Putting plenty of examples into your summary. Use case studies and applications to help with principles and abstract concepts.
- Talking about your notes with another kinesthetic learner
- Using pictures and photographs that illustrate an idea
- Going back to the laboratory or your lab manual
- Recalling the experiments, fields trip
- (Your lecture notes may be poor because the topics were not "concrete" or "relevant")

Read & Write Learners
intake information by:

Lists

Headings

Dictionaries

Glossaries

Definitions

Handouts

Textbooks

Reading – Library

Lecture notes (verbatim)

Manuals (computing and laboratory)

Lecturers who use words well and have lots of information in sentences and notes

SWOT – Study Without Tears, Read and Writers

- Convert your lecture notes by:
- Writing out the words again and again
- Reading your notes (silently) again and again
- Rewriting the ideas and principles into other words
- Organizing any diagrams and graphs into statements (e.g., the trend is ...) Turning reactions, actions, charts, and flows into words
- Imagining your lists arranged in multiple choice question formats and distinguishing each from the other

What's Your Learning Style?
Go to: http://vark-learn.com/english/page.asp?p=questionnaire to take a quick assessment.
Adapted from The VARK, copyrighted by Neil Fleming, Christchurch, New Zealand, and Charles Bonwell, St. Louis, Missouri.