Tips for Academic Success

Biology 116/117

SI Leader Tips for Studying for Biology 116 / 117

Academic Resources has asked our Supplemental Instruction (SI) leaders to share their best strategies for doing well with particular courses. Here are their recommendations for Biology 116/117.

• Before class, read the subtitles and have a general idea of what will be covered during the class.

• Listen, take notes, and tape record if necessary. This is one of the classes where everything that the professor says is important!

• Read over the material for main points. Read again for depth. Read again for details and then again until you know the concepts completely.

• Reread your lecture notes and lab material after class. Go over notes after class, before bed, and right before lectures.

• Make note cards for terminology. Make a vocabulary sheet/or flashcards, and keep them with you at all times. The more you rehearse the material, the easier it will be to remember!

• Create mnemonic devices for learning material.

• Break the material down into smaller parts, and study a chunk at a time.

• Visualize the material as you learn it to help you see how various systems work.

• Be active when studying. Ask questions about the placement, function, components, etc.

• Do not wait till the night before to cram for the exam. You will get frustrated and will not be successful.

• Read the materials, and repeat the material back to yourself.

• Create a study group. Quiz and ask each other potential test questions.

• Attend SI sessions! Use SI materials to study.

• Know the material. Do not just learn it. Knowledge is the ability to use what you have studied and apply it.