

Study Tips for Online Learning 2 Transcript

- [00:00:00] It's true. We're all different. And each of us has a preferred learning style, even though we are always using a combination of our ears, eyes, hands, and other senses to help us absorb and understand the information we receive. BYU Independent Study courses use various media, readings, video, discussion boards, and others to teach their content. And like any online course, being a strong reader and a disciplined independent learner will significantly improve your chances of successfully completing your online course.
- [00:00:30] But what if reading is not your preferred learning style and reading retention not one of your strengths? Fortunately, there are some things you can do to overcome these challenges, increase your retention, and improve your chances of excelling in your online course.
- [00:00:43] First, try reading through your course out loud, starting with the syllabus. It may seem like an odd thing to do at first, but hearing the content of your course, in addition to reading it, should help you absorb and retain more of the information. Do this for all of your course content, including assignment directions, important discussion board posts, and any other course content that you want to remember.
- [00:01:05] Second, make it a habit to take notes. Have you ever read through a page of text and then couldn't remember what you just read? It happens to everyone. Just as you would take notes in a lecture in a traditional face-to-face classroom, take notes throughout your online course. This will help you keep your mind and body engaged in what is being taught. When you read the course syllabus, jot down the important assignments and their due dates. And when you're reading course content, take notes on the key points, again, just as you would in a traditional classroom lecture. Your notes could be bulleted items, diagrams, or

even pictures. You could also create flashcards of all the information you need to remember, and then review them regularly. Just do what works best for you. Doing these things in addition to reading will help you remember the information more effectively.

[00:01:52] Third, when you have questions, refer back to your syllabus and course instructions. If that doesn't answer your questions, don't hesitate to ask for help. Asking questions is an important skill for effective online learning. Students who proactively ask questions will progress faster and do better in their online coursework than those who wait too long or never ask for help.

[00:02:12] The good news is there are many resources you can turn to when you have a question or issues that need to be resolved. As an online learner, you are never alone. Your course syllabus will include the contact information for your teaching assistant and your instructor. If you have a question, try contacting your TA first. He or she should be able to answer most of your questions. If your TA can't provide the assistance you need, go ahead and contact your instructor. More than anything, they want you to be successful, so don't hesitate to ask for help.

[00:02:41] If you have a technical question or issue, you can contact our technical support team at 1-877-897-8085, or 1-801-422-8524, Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Mountain Standard Time. For general questions, you can also contact our customer support team at 1-801-422-1194, Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Mountain Standard Time. As you can see, there are many people who are available to help you succeed.

[00:03:16] Finally, as you consistently practice the learning strategies discussed in this video, you will become a more confident and successful online learner.