HOW TO STUDY ACCOUNTING

Visit the Office of Academic Support
Furst Hall 412
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Reading Does Not Mean Studying!

Reading a textbook is not the same as reading a novel

Apply active reading strategies:
• Start with the chapter summary because it structures the chapter and highlights the main ideas
• Turn chapter headings into questions. Your reading purpose is to answer the questions
• Write down the questions and answers in the margin of your book or in a notebook
Study the Bold Terms in the Text

• Create index cards

• Use the website www.quizlet.com

• If possible, provide examples for the definitions so that you can recognize the terms beyond their literal meaning

• Create compare/contrast charts when studying multiple financial statements

• Use mnemonics (pronounced neh-mahn-icks) to recall material by associating the meanings of words to familiar words and visual images

• Use your textbook’s companion site for extra practice
Come to Class Prepared

Read the text before class:

• Understanding the material before class will help keep you engaged and active during class

• If you are unsure about a concept that you have read, listen for that concept during class and use your time in class as an opportunity to ask questions and clarify your understanding

• Keep up with the reading every week to avoid cramming before an exam
Actively Participate in Class

Write down important points with examples

Ask questions to:
• clarify the concepts taught
• gain clarity on anything that you read that you find confusing

Write down questions that pertain to the lecture:
• Listen for the answer during the lecture
• If your question remains unanswered, ask it after class, in an email to the professor or during a session with a tutor
Plan Your Study Time

• Apply the Two-Hour Rule: Devote two hours of studying for every one hour of class

• Plan to study in a distraction-free environment

• Study in 30–40-minute increments to maximize concentration

• Take short breaks as necessary
Study Your Lecture Notes

Read your notes as if you were reading the textbook

• Write questions or comments in the margins
• Explain your notes out loud
• Predict test questions based on your notes
Practice What You Have Learned

• Complete the homework after reading the textbook and reviewing your notes. Your accuracy will be a good indicator of how well you have mastered the material.

• Use WileyPLUS practice quizzes to learn from the types of errors that you are making so that you can adjust your preparation.

• Use the results of practice quizzes to learn which specific topics to review with a tutor and the most efficient use of time during a tutoring session.
If You Would Like to Learn More About How to Study Accounting

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