HOW TO STUDY ACCOUNTING

Visit the Learning Success Center
646-592-4285
learningsuccesscenter@yu.edu

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 40 five-minute increments to maximize concentration

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

- Compete 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

Visit the Wilf Learning Success Center
646-592-4285
wilflearningsuccesscenter@yu.edu

