

Active Learning Checklist

*** (adapted from Gardner & Jewler, 2005, *Your College Experience: Strategies for Success*)*

- I'm usually comfortable asking a question in class
- I'm usually comfortable making a comment to provide an example of something the instructor is talking about
- I have studied with other students in my classes
- When I have an assignment, I usually talk to classmates about it to check in on my approach
- I try to sit close to the front of the class so that I can focus on the topic, the instructor, and the screen/board
- If I have a question about the material or an assignment, I attend my instructors' office hours to ask about it.
- I save my "skip days" for real emergencies.
- I try to summarize the material in my notes or in the text every so often to make sure that I've grasped the main point
- When I read and take notes, I write comments on the material and questions in my own words.
- I make notes about vocabulary words in the text or lecture that I do not understand.
- When I read, I pause frequently to check to make sure that I'm grasping the main points
- If I am confused by a point or an example in a textbook or from a lecture, I look it up from another source (like Google) to see if I can get a better explanation.
- I show up on time for my classes.
- I check Blackboard regularly for updates to the course or course material.
- If an instructor shows a video in class, I take notes, and then write a little comment at the end about the main point of the video.
- When I know that some terminology will be hard to remember, I rely on memory tricks (like making a rhyme or song, or a visual image) to make sure that I can memorize it.
- I have back up plans ready for things that might go wrong that affect my education, like babysitters, transportation, computer/printer malfunction, etc.
- I space out my studying over several days rather than cramming the night before a test
- When I study, I make sure my environment is free from distractions, e.g., put phone away, turn off TV, find a quiet place, etc.
- When I have a big, difficult essay question, I make a quick informal outline or jot a few notes to help organize my thoughts before beginning to write.
- I spend the few minutes before class looking over my notes from last time