

Organizing a Study Group Tip Sheet

Studying with others can be a great opportunity to check understanding, structure your study time, and maintain social connections. Use the strategies below to help you create a study group.

Find Study Group Members

Sometimes you already know a few students in your courses that you can arrange a study group with. Other times, it may take a little more effort to connect with others. Here are some suggestions for finding other students for your study group:

- Put a message out through an existing communication channel such as Discord or WhatsApp.
- Check out clubs within your faculty to ask about opportunities to post a study group invitation using their communication channels.

Get your Group Started

Once you have some study group members, here are some tips for setting your group up to work well together.

Set up the Logistics

- Discuss how often group members should meet. Share schedules and availability to make meeting scheduling easy.
- Share contact information so that everyone is reachable.
- Discuss how you will communicate and which communication methods the group will use.
- Talk to your course instructor to ensure you understand guidelines for maintaining academic integrity while collaborating with peers.

Tip: Establish a regular, weekly time and place to meet to maintain momentum. Creating study routines is an important strategy for staying motivated and keeping up with course material.

Establish Study Group Guidelines

Establishing group guidelines can help ensure your study group creates a positive learning environment. Here are some suggestions for maintaining positive relationships in your study group:

- Learn and use group members preferred names and pronouns.
- Provide opportunities for each member to speak.

- Engage in active and respectful listening.
- Be prepared to give and receive respectful and constructive feedback.
- Be open to diverse points of view.
- Discuss how your group will avoid academic integrity concerns.

Tip: To help to ensure everyone is part of establishing your guidelines, take some time in your first session to identify some standards that everyone can agree on. You can share this tipsheet with your group and discuss how to modify the suggestions to fit all members' needs.

Discover Activities for Learning Together

Here some activities that you can do together in your study group.

- Discuss assigned readings.
- Quiz each other on class material.
- Work through practice problems.
- "Reteach" aspects of the material that group members are unsure of.
- Brainstorm possible test questions and responses.
- Review quiz and test results and correct misunderstandings.
- Critique each other's ideas for paper themes and approaches.
- Define questions to ask the instructor.

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