**Strategies for Online Study Groups**

Whether meeting with a tutor or a group of classmates, study groups offer a unique experience of learning information in new ways. Below are some strategies to guide you (and your peers) to become more comfortable and confident with your coursework. Remember, your preparation is the key to getting the most out of your session. Prepare for your sessions by setting up the appropriate technology and having your course materials available to share with the group. Start by using some of the strategies below to make your study group a collaborative learning experience!



* Develop some questions you might see on an exam. Share with your group and practice answering them.
* Create a practice test. Try using some educational websites to mix-up the questions from different chapters.
* When answering questions, consider the evidence. Identify why you selected the answer.
* Check for understand after answering each question. Ask yourself, “How do I know this?”
* Take it a step further explain why other answers are incorrect. This will help you feel more confident in your answer!
* Consider the information you have available and analyze the question from different perspectives. Ask and try to answer “What if…?” scenarios.
* Write down some key concepts and strategies to demonstrate full understanding of the information. Complete the activities to your confirm understanding.
* After the exam, identify which strategies from your study sessions were effective. Create a revised study plan for next time!

**Demonstrate Mastery**

* You know the information so take it a step further. Identify similarities and differences between concepts. Discuss as a group to make those connections.
* Quiz each other! How did that go? Are there any topics that need a little more attention? Consider finding additional times to meet as a group.
* Take a few minutes to complete a practice problem on your own. Discuss your answers and problem-solving strategies as a group.
* Try teaching concepts to one-another without any of your notes! Be sure to give feedback to help others add more to what they already know.
* Write out steps to a problem while others provide the sequence and rationale as to what is next. Remember to take turns!
* Use a visual aid to summarize what you’ve learned. Compare with others in the group to see how the information can be presented in different ways.
* Elaborate on what you know. Pick a topic and go around the group to add information such as definitions, examples, etc. You got this!

 **Apply Knowledge**

* Identify what you already know! Make a list of concepts that are a little fuzzy.
* As a group share the topics you would like to review. Perhaps each group member can teach that topic to the group.
* Start off by defining the key terms and writing down any other information you know about the topic.
* Use available resources such as textbooks, notes, videos, etc. to help explain the information in your own words.
* Try a practice problem. One group member can work through the problem, while another provides the explanation. Be sure to take turns so that everyone can participate!
* Think about how the content applies to a real-world setting. Generate examples to further your understanding.
* Keep practicing! Explain problems, charts, diagrams, etc. to one another. Remember to check for understanding before moving on!
* Summarize what you’ve learned. Create a table, outline, or other document that can be shared with your group. This will come in handy when reviewing the information later!

**Develop Understanding**