

SUCCESSFUL STUDY STRATEGIES

WEEKLY PLANNING EXAMPLE

Spend 10 minutes on Sunday night or Monday morning to make a weekly plan. Here's how:

- 1. On a sheet of paper, write at the top, "Plan for the Week of: ______".
- 2. List all the **tasks** you need to get done for each course. Break large tasks (those that will take more than 2-3 hours) into smaller, more manageable subtasks. Include an "Other" category for important tasks outside of class, (e.g., revise resume, pick up internship application).
- 3. Write down the **due date** for those tasks that have solid due dates (assignments, papers, etc.)
- 4. **Estimate the amount of time** it will take you to get each task done.
- 5. **Prioritize** the tasks: Which tasks need to get done first? Which ones are more important? Note: Priority #1 may not always be the first thing you do. A rule of thumb: study new and challenging material in the morning; review, repetition, and rehearsal in the evening.
- 6. Look at your **Fixed Schedule** and allocate tasks into loose blocks of time for a day and half –never more. Don't plan the whole week or every half-hour time block. Effective and efficient learners are flexible!

It's Thursday night and you see the weekend ahead as a time to catch up. All things are possible. And then suddenly it's Sunday night and there's a sense of panic.

So spend 10 minutes on Thursday night to plan out what needs to get done over the weekend. Be realistic. Schedule fun.

Use the same format as above (example on the back of this page).

Example of a Plan for the Week of: 2/14/2005

PRIORITY	TASKS / SUBTASKS	DUE DATE	ESTIMATED TIME
4	MATH 115 Problem set Question 1 Question 2 Question 3	Thurs 2/17	3 hours 1 hour 1 hour 1 hour
3	CS 110 Choose web page topic Read pages 20-35 Meet with professor	Tues 2/15	10 min 45 min 20 min
1	FREN 101 Read section 4 Answer section 4 questions Read section 5 Answer section 5 questions Meet with study group	Mon 2/14 Fri 2/18	45 min 1 hour 45 min 1 hour 1 hour
2	BISC 110 Read and summarize Ch. 3 Read and summarize Ch 4 Prepare for lab	Wed 2/16	1 hour 1 hour 45 min
5	OTHER Revise resume Hand in application Prepare for committee meeting	Wed 2/16 Thurs 2/17	