

STRATEGIES FOR EFFECTIVE REMOTE LEARNING

Learning in an online class can be a very different experience. Adapting strategies to engage with your class and course materials regularly and staying organized can help you stay on task and learn effectively.

1 EMBRACE AN OPEN MIND AND PRACTICE COMPASSION

Please remember that the instructors are learning new things and finding new ways to manage instruction, assignments and exams. Have an open mind to learn the course norms/culture and practice compassion with yourself and those around you.

2 FOLLOW COURSE ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Read through and follow all course announcements and emails from instructional staff. Emails and course announcements will be the prime methods of communication used by the instructors.
- If you turned off Canvas announcement notifications, turn them on ([instructions here](#)).

3 LEARN THE METHODS USED IN CLASS

- Read through course syllabi and learn what instructional methods are being used. Here are some questions to ponder:
 - How are lectures being delivered -synchronous (where lectures are live) or asynchronous (no live lectures but prerecorded videos or readings are provided) or a bit of both (where some parts of the class are live and some are not)
 - How will you participate in class?
 - How does your instructor want you to communicate with them?
 - How are instructor office hours held?
 - What academic resources are available?
 - How will you post assignments?
 - How will you take exams?
 - How will you do group work?
- Take notes about the different methods used for different courses.
- Familiarize yourself with the technology used in class.

4 COMMUNICATE AND STAY IN THE LOOP

- If any of the above methods used in class are unclear and/or don't work for you, communicate with your instructor and/or other instructional staff.
- Be in touch with your classmates. Find out what works for them and how they navigate through the new norms. Motivate and keep each other accountable.

5 ENGAGE DURING CLASS TIME

- Block your calendar for regular class times. Be aware of time zones.
- Be proactive - check speakers, webcams and other technologies if you'll need them.
- Expect technical difficulties - login to your course Canvas page before class begins to allow time for troubleshooting.
- Engage in class discussions.
- If your class doesn't have synchronous lectures, still login during class time to do class work.

6 MAKE A WEEKLY CHECK LIST

- In an online class, without the visual cues and reminders about upcoming assignments, you'll need to actively monitor and evaluate your goals and tasks.
- Create a master list of exams and assignments with due dates.
- Create weekly checklist and post it where it's visible.
- Have your friends/family members hold you accountable.

7 CREATE STUDY TIMES AND SPACES

- Establish a regular work space (kitchen table, home office, local library, coffee shop).
- Schedule study times and routines (what days/times will you watch lectures, when would you do homework, review notes, prepare for test, use resources etc.).
- Make sure you have all the materials you need in your work space (books, planner, headphones).
- Take notes while attending lectures and when studying. Note down challenging concepts. Get help!

8 USE RESOURCES

In challenging times like this, it is important to speak up and get help. The Learning Center's course-specific mentoring resources are available via Zoom ([click for more information](#)).

Peer Coaches are available to help you set goals and adjust strategies while you adapt to remote learning ([click for more information](#)).

The Learning Center staff are also available Monday-Friday, 9 AM-5 PM CDT to help you navigate online courses via email (learningcenter@wustl.edu) or phone (314-935-2066).

