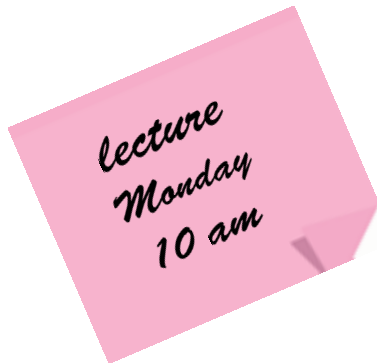


GET THE MOST FROM LECTURES

Want to get more from your lectures?

Here are some tips to help you.



Understanding lectures

Lectures have many purposes. They provide:

- an explanation of complex material,
- access to knowledge that may be hard to find in published material,
- customised material for your particular unit or area of study,
- insights gained through the lecturer's research,
- an overview of a large topic,
- a snapshot of key concepts, theories and/ or methodologies in your area of study,
- a basis for discussion in tutorials, and
- a context for further individual study.

TIP: Lectures can spark your interest in your course, inspire you to explore new topics and make connections between ideas, as well as helping you to develop your knowledge.

How to make lectures work for you

Aim to approach each lecture as an active learning experience:

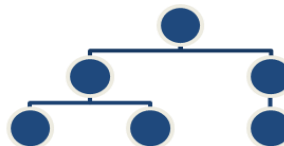
- Arrive on time - the start of the lecture usually includes a lecture outline and other introductory material.
- Come prepared - make sure you know what the lecture topic is and where it fits in your unit. Do the set pre-reading!

During the lecture:

- Listen for the key points.
- Take good notes.
- Predict what is coming next (this is easier if you have done the required reading).
- Formulate questions as the lecture progresses, to follow up on afterwards.
- Think about how the material relates to the reading you have done.
- Think about how the lecture relates to the unit as a whole.

After the lecture:

- Draw mind maps of the concepts covered and the relationships between them.



TIP: Review your lecture notes within 24 hours of each lecture; it will help you to process and remember the lecture content and check what you understood or did not understand.

To get more from your lectures:

- Introduce yourself to students sitting near you. Find people to discuss the lecture with afterwards; it will give you a fresh perspective on the topic.
- If you get distracted easily, sit near the front so you can focus on what the lecturer is presenting.
- Put your phone in flight mode/ silent mode and stow it where it will not distract you or disturb other people.



- Do the set lecture pre-reading. You will find it easier to understand the lecture if you already know something about the topic.
- Most lectures are recorded so you have a second chance to listen to them. Use the recordings to go back over anything you did not understand and to add any notes you missed during the lecture.

Did you know? Lectures are a good way to improve your social life - you will meet other students interested in the same subjects as you.

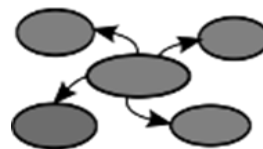
About your lecture notes

- Your goal is to **understand** the lecture, so allow yourself time for listening and thinking - do not try to write down everything the lecturer says.
- Be **selective** with your note-taking: write down the key points and make a note of any questions you have and anything you need to find out.

TIP: Write your questions in a separate column of your notes to follow up on afterwards. You might want to ask about them in your tutes or labs.

Lecture 1	Notes
Questions ???	

- Review your notes after the lecture: check they make sense to you, add anything you missed and make a note of anything you did not understand, to follow up on.
- Summarise your notes using your own words or mind maps.



Notes	Summary

Like this Survival Guide? Why not check out more of our guides...

StudySmarter, Make the Most of Tutes, Working in Groups, UWA Lingo, Critical Thinking, Mind Mapping, Notetaking.

Want to know more about STUDYSmarter?

Find out about all our services and resources at: www.studysmarter.uwa.edu.au

Any suggestions?

We would love to hear from you. Email us at studysmarter@uwa.edu.au

This resource was developed by the STUDYSmarter team for UWA students. When using our resources, please retain them in their original form with both the STUDYSmarter heading and the UWA logo.

