

# Preparing for Midterms and Finals

## Know Your Exam

### **What do you need to know?**

- *Format*: Will the exam be objective or subjective?
- *What will be covered*: What chapters and topics will be on the test? Will the final be comprehensive?
- *Logistics*: Where will the exam be held? What day and time? What materials do you need to bring?

## Manage Your Time

### **It's all about academics!**

- Find a "slow week" that you can utilize to work ahead and get assignments done early before exams.
- During finals time, make academics your top priority.
- Begin your final preparation three weeks before your first final.

## Set Up Your Study Schedule

### **Keep yourself organized!**

- Make a schedule for each of the three weeks before finals.
- Plan study sessions in two-hour segments with breaks in-between.
- Be sure to review during each of your sessions so you don't forget previously studied material!

## Study!!

### **What are some tips for success?**

- Write practice questions while studying.
- Use your learning style. Read notes, record lectures, or make flash cards!

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## Work With Your Classmates

### **Two heads are better than one!**

- Form study groups.
- Compare and contrast the different strategies and methods of your classmates. Which ones seem to be more successful?

## Work With Your Instructor

### **Instructors want you to succeed!**

- Ask for feedback.
- Pay attention to exam “hints” the instructor may give.
- Make sure you understand your instructor’s expectations.

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Dembo, M., & Seli, H. (2008). *Motivation and learning strategies for college success* (3<sup>rd</sup> ed.). New York: Taylor and Francis Group.

Ellis, D. (2006). *Becoming a master student* (11<sup>th</sup> ed.). Boston: Houghton Mifflin.

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