

BUREAU OF STUDY COUNSEL  
CENTER FOR ACADEMIC AND PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT

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## Notemaking Self-Assessment: What approaches do you use?

*To prepare for a lecture or for reading, I: (pick what applies to you)*

- prepare by reviewing the readings to get an overview of the topics, main ideas and to identify the author's questions and my questions.
- review the readings, but don't typically formulate the main ideas, identify my questions, or the author's questions.
- tend to get done whatever I can but don't usually have time to process the information beforehand.
- other?:

*When I'm in lecture, I: (pick what applies to you)*

- can identify the speaker's main ideas.
- write down the important ideas that I might want to remember later.
- get very sleepy and have trouble staying awake.
- take copious notes, trying to get down on paper everything the speaker is saying.
- go to lecture, but tape the lecture or plan to watch a video of the lecture in order to take notes.
- make notes that include my own ideas and questions in the margin.
- make diagrams that visually connect the ideas being presented.
- other?:

*Continued on back*

***When I'm reading, I: (pick what applies to you)***

- \_\_\_ use a highlighter to mark up the text.
- \_\_\_ write down the main ideas and my questions.
- \_\_\_ write a summary of the main points.
- \_\_\_ take copious notes to make sure I capture all the detail.
- \_\_\_ get very sleepy and distracted and will get up to do other things in the middle.
- \_\_\_ other?

You may be interested in exploring your responses and discussing strategies for effective notemaking with a BSC counselor. To schedule an appointment, you can speak with a Front Office staff member in person or contact the Front Office at (617) 495-2581.