

Tips for Success

1. Don't miss class! Hearing content explained and examples used help to reinforce the information. If you must miss, make sure you get copies of the notes from someone who takes good notes.
2. Ask questions during class so as to understand the content the first time it is presented.
3. Read the textbook to reinforce and clarify content. Highlight important information and only important information during the first reading. Prior to testing, review what is highlighted.
4. Reread your notes from class within 24 hours of taking them to make sure they are understandable.
5. Force yourself to make connections between class and clinical. Realize that you are not going to understand everything, but strive to by making connections. Ask clinical faculty to help with this.
6. Tape lectures as needed, especially if English is your second language. Listen to the portions of the lecture that are unclear to you.
7. Study without interruptions. This might mean leaving your house or going into a special room in your house. Either way, your family and friends need to know that this time is precious.
8. Participate in a study group. Make sure the study group works for you and has your same goals and objectives ie. studying vs. socializing.
9. When preparing for a test, do not study what you already know. If you know it, you know it! Indicate with a highlighter the content that you are comfortable with and spend your time on the content that is not highlighted. Pretty soon everything will be highlighted!
10. Take advantage of test review. Visit faculty during office hours so that you can see exactly why questions answered were incorrect. Ask questions so as to help change your thought process and future success with testing.
11. Answer NCLEX questions either on a computer or from an NCLEX review book. You will be surprised how much you will learn about content as well as testing in general. Shoot for answering 3000 questions prior to sitting for the NCLEX. This means starting early in your nursing program.
12. Reward yourself with some relaxation time. Make it as high a priority item as studying.