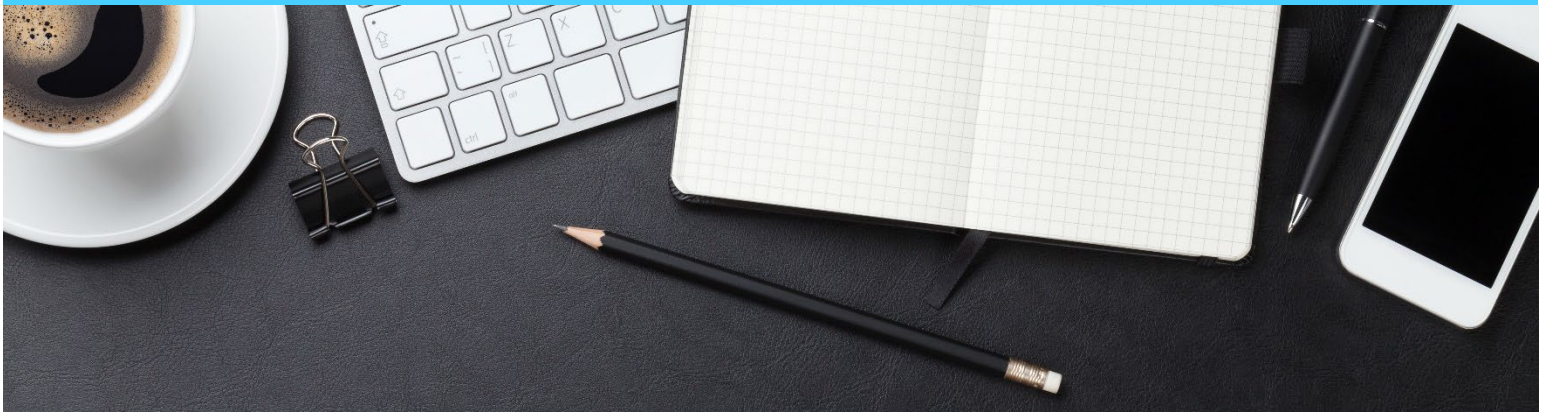


Cornell Notes



What is it and why do I care?

Cornell note-taking strategy encourages you to take quality notes (i.e. ones you can actually use) and to keep your brain active in multiple ways to convert those notes into long-term learning. The method can be used for taking notes in class, while reading, and/or when using online resources. You can take notes using your laptop, but research indicates writing things down improves your retention.

How do I use it?

Notes (during)

Writing key information down as you hear it helps you remember it.

- Capture the main idea and specific details (including abbreviations or symbols)
- NOT a word-for-word account

Cue (during and/or after)

Asking yourself questions keeps your brain active; it lets you apply, analyze, and evaluate what you're learning. These are great to use for [Active Recall](#).

Example Cues include:

- How is this related to _____?
- How would this work in _____ situation?
- Opposite of what was said on Monday – go to office hours!
- Use this as the topic in my XYZ assignment.
- I still don't understand this, get more info!

Summary (after)

Let's you go from "in the weeds" details to the big picture.

- A few sentences describing what you learned today
- Try to do this as soon as possible after class
- Review the summary before class (whenever you have it next) to help draw connections across the semester

Review (daily)

Don't wait until right before a test to look at your notes. Take 5-10 minutes to review your notes each day – fill in missing info, clarify connections, add "Cue" thoughts, write the "Summary." If you're in a study group, compare notes; did you identify the same main ideas and important details? If not, why?

Video Resources

- What are Cornell Notes?: https://youtu.be/HEsBd_Rgzfs
- Examples of Ways to Use Them: https://youtu.be/nX-xshA_0m8

