

Mount 101 Tips for Note-Taking in Different Disciplines

Like studying, there's no one-size-fits-all approach for note-taking. Some methods work better for some classes than others. Think about what the purpose and methodology of each discipline is and use it to help structure how you prepare for class and take notes.

Business courses use a lot of case studies. Complete the assigned questions and readings before class so that you can follow along more easily and use your notes to clarify what you didn't understand.

Problem-based courses (e.g., Math): Jot down all of the steps of the problem. It may look straightforward when your professor goes through everything, but becomes a little more difficult when it's your turn to solve the problems. If you know the steps, you'll be able to solve for x.

Arts and Social Sciences: Complete the readings before class to understand the context. Then, listen for content not covered in the readings. Sometimes lectures are the only place you'll hear that content.

Science courses start with basic concepts and then build on them (almost like building blocks). Use the assigned readings to understand the basic concepts, then make note of what's said during lecture to build upon the basic concepts.

Source: Royal Roads University Learning Skills. (n.d.). *Note-taking in class*. <https://libguides.royalroads.ca/learningskills/classnotes>.