

Test-Taking Strategies

SHOW WHAT YOU KNOW.

MAXIMIZE YOUR CHANCES FOR EXAM SUCCESS.

Test-taking can be stressful but just like any other skill, **test-taking strategies can be studied, learned, and practiced.** In addition to the tips outlined here, remember to utilize the Office of Academic Resources (OAR) for additional support, including our *Reducing Exam Stress* handout, number of books with detailed exam strategies, and personalized advice by scheduling an appointment with OAR staff online or via email.



General Test Taking Tips

1 Be Prepared

- Organize yourself
- Stay on top of your coursework
- Study early on in the semester

2 Arrive Early

Consider arriving early to keep things stress-free and focused.

3 Don't Cram

Instead of cramming, try spreading out your study sessions—it's easier on the nerves!

4 Avoid Negative Energy

Keep your vibe positive, especially around exams. It's okay to step away from stressful chats.

5 Budget Your Time

Planning your time can really help make sure you get through everything smoothly.

6 Answer Easiest Questions First

Starting with the questions you feel most comfortable with can give you a nice confidence boost!

Essay Exam Tips

Brainstorm possible questions before the test



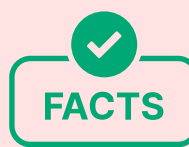
Read Instructions Carefully and respond to all parts of the question.



Create an Outline with your argument and supporting facts



Support Your Argument with facts and logic, not just opinions.



Write Neatly to ensure your paper is readable





Test-Taking Strategies

Multiple Choice Exam Tips

Note Key Words.

Words such as sometimes, always, best, most, and so on can dramatically alter the question and lead to wrong answers



Don't look at the choices right away.

Think of a correct answer before looking at the answer choices



Read all the answers.

An answer might seem obvious, but a better one may be lurking.



Mark and return.

If you don't know an answer, mark it and come back to it later when other questions may jog your memory.



Open Book and Take Home Exams

Be clear on what is permitted.

If you have any doubts, ask. This will ensure that you don't violate the Honor Code and that you don't miss out on resources that you can use.



Secure a Test-Friendly Location.

Make sure you have access to the location at the test time and that there will be no disturbances.



Know your materials and organize your space for quick information retrieval.



Don't copy from the text!

Ensure that you know the Honor Code guidelines and be sure to follow them.

