

Cornell Note-Taking Method

Create class notes that will actually be useful for you come study time! Be sure to follow the steps in order. For more on how to use this method, refer to the next page!

(STEP 2) RECALL COLUMN

Use this side to:

- (a) **Identify places to revisit**, gaps where you need clarification or questions you have from the lecture.
- (b) **Write down any questions you might have**. This way you can remember to ask your TA, classmate, or professor ASAP.
- (c) **Create questions** to study from based on note-taking column.
TIP: Writing questions helps to clarify meaning, reveal relationships, establish continuity, and strengthen memory. Also, the writing of questions sets up a perfect stage for exam-studying later.
- (d) **Write down keywords**
- (e) **Make connections** to other material either from your experience or from the textbook.
- (f) **Reduce ideas and facts** to concise summaries and important topics.

(STEP 1) NOTE-TAKING COLUMN

1. Format: Before class, re-create the Cornell Note-Taking paper format like this example.

OR...

(You could split your page into sections 1 and 2 and then save the Step 3 Summary box until the very end of your lecture notes!)

2. Record: During the lecture, use the note taking column to record the lecture as you would normally.

(BONUS): How To Study From Notes

(See *Reading & Note-Taking Combination Study Strategy* handout on the next page, to learn how you could use these notes to study from)

(STEP 3) SUMMARY

After class, use this space at the bottom of each page to summarize the notes on that page. By summarizing your notes in your own words, it is going to show you that you have a good understanding of the content. If you are having a difficult time summarizing your notes, re-read them and try again. Albert Einstein explained it well:

"If you can't explain it simply, you don't understand it well."

HINT: Doing steps 2 & 3 should not take you more than 45 minutes!