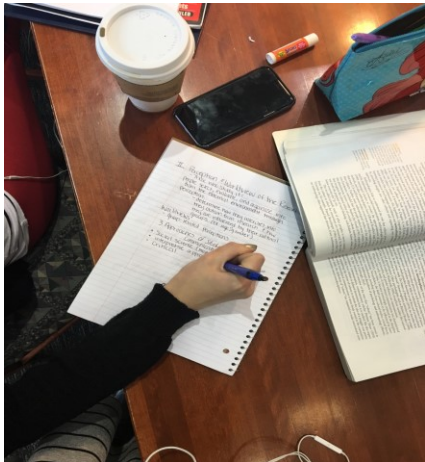


## **Top 10 Notetaking Tips**

Coming into college, it quickly becomes clear that we are in a very different world from high school. Gone are the days of handouts from the teachers and the tests that were easy, breezy. College is a serious game. One of the biggest transitions can be learning how to effectively take notes on your own. You can't help but ask: How do I know what's important? How will I remember this material?

As always, Omega Notes is here to help. Here are ten notetaking tips:

### **1. Come Prepared**



Make sure you come to class with everything you need. Bring a notebook or a binder, pencils, pen, and a highlighter. It would be smart to bring a backup pencil too in case you run out of lead. (We've all been there...). Come to class with a mindset ready to learn and eager to listen.

### **2. Write Notes By Hand**

Studies have shown that writing your notes by hand will help you remember the material. While typing make work for others and having printed powerpoints seems convenient, writing it down may be more beneficial. Your mind will not only associate the material with a visual memory, but a kinesthetic one as well from physically writing it.

### **3. Focus On Lesson Objectives**

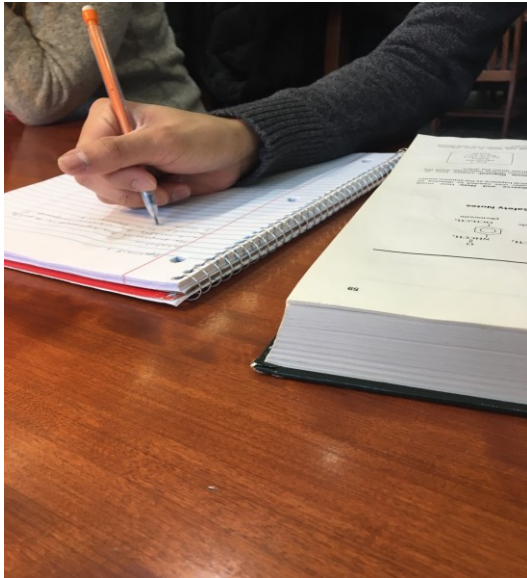
For each chapter or lesson your professor provides you, there are usually learning objectives. These are what you should focus on in the lectures. If you keep these in mind while you take notes, it will help you pick up on what is important. This is also the information you will most likely be tested on later.

### **4. Ask Questions**

Be sure to ask the professors any questions on the material. They can go into further detail that isn't

covered in the textbooks. Most, if not all, professors are more than willing to help you. If you're too shy to ask in class, take advantage of the office hours that professors are required to have. It's one-on-one time to clarify any confusion.

### **5. Highlight Key Terms**



If there are any vocab words or major concepts, be sure to highlight them. This shows their significance. When you go back to look at your notes while studying, you'll know what are the most important topics to study.

### **6. Organize Your Notes By Chapters & Subsections**

Organize each of your notes by chapters and appropriate subsections. Your brain likes to chunk things together. It makes things easier to remember. Keeping notes organized is key. It will make things easier to study as you prepare for any upcoming exams.

### **7. Abbreviate**

Sometimes the professors can throw a lot of information at you. It's hard to take it all in with 50 minutes. Abbreviating can help you with that. Abbreviate certain words so that you have time to write down all the important information. Be careful, though. If you abbreviate the word in a weird way, you might not remember what exactly you were trying to say when you go back to study.

### **8. Listen To Cues From Professors**

Often times professors will repeat certain phrases and emphasize certain points. They do that for reason. Make note of it. You'll probably be tested on it later.

### **9. Use Visual Aids**

Visual aids can help you remember the material in a different way. If you present material in charts or

pyramids, it will create an image in your mind for you to reflect on. This makes the material easier to remember than just rereading sentences.

#### **10. Compare Notes With Other Classmates**

Sometimes you can miss some stuff or get distracted. It happens to the best of us. Be sure to compare with a classmate and see what they took away from the lecture. You both only benefit from sharing the knowledge.