

# Study Tips

Last Modified on 09/10/2024 12:10 pm CDT

## 1. Create a Study Schedule

- **Tip:** Break down assignments and schedule study sessions. Prioritize based on deadlines and difficulty.
- **Tool:** Use **Outlook Calendar** (available via [Microsoft 365](http://portal.office.com) (<http://portal.office.com>)) to set reminders for assignments, exams, and study sessions.

## 2. Leverage LSC's Online Library Resources

- **Tip:** Start research early using Lone Star College's online library for credible sources.
- **Tool:** Access [LSC Library Research Databases](https://www.lonestar.edu/library/article-databases) (<https://www.lonestar.edu/library/article-databases>) for free access to scholarly articles, journals, and e-books.

## 3. Use Brainfuse for Online Tutoring

- **Tip:** Get free tutoring help for challenging subjects.
- **Tool:** LSC offers [Brainfuse](https://vlac.lonestar.edu/help/a366) (<https://vlac.lonestar.edu/help/a366>) for free 24/7 online tutoring, writing labs, and study resources. Set up a tutoring appointment through [Tutor Match](https://vlac.lonestar.edu/help/use-tutormatch) (<https://vlac.lonestar.edu/help/use-tutormatch>).

## 4. Join Study Groups

- **Tip:** Collaborate with peers in person or online for a better understanding of complex topics.
- **Tool:** Use the [D2L Classlist](https://vlac.lonestar.edu/help/use-classlist) (<https://vlac.lonestar.edu/help/use-classlist>) for discussion boards and class collaborations with classmates.

## 5. Make Flashcards for Memorization

- **Tip:** Flashcards are great for subjects requiring heavy memorization (e.g., biology, languages).
- **Tool:** [Quizlet](https://quizlet.com/create-set) (<https://quizlet.com/create-set>) offers free flashcard creation and study modes, ideal for reviewing key concepts.

## 6. Use the Writing Center for Paper Reviews

- **Tip:** Get feedback on essays and research papers before submission.
- **Tool:** Access [Turnitin](https://vlac.lonestar.edu/help/view-scores-feedback-in-turnitin) (<https://vlac.lonestar.edu/help/view-scores-feedback-in-turnitin>) and [IntelliWriter](https://vlac.lonestar.edu/help/access-intelliwriter-in-d2l) (<https://vlac.lonestar.edu/help/access-intelliwriter-in-d2l>) (via D2L) to check for plagiarism and improve writing quality.

## 7. Practice the Pomodoro Technique

- **Tip:** Study in 25-minute intervals followed by 5-minute breaks to maintain focus.
- **Tool:** Use [TomatoTimer](https://www.tomatotimers.com/) (<https://www.tomatotimers.com/>) (web-based) for free Pomodoro sessions to manage study time effectively.

## 8. Stay Organized with Digital Note-Taking

- **Tip:** Take detailed class notes and review them daily for better retention.
- **Tool:** Using [OneNote](https://www.microsoft365.com/launch/OneNote/?from=PortalHome) (<https://www.microsoft365.com/launch/OneNote/?from=PortalHome>) (part of

**Microsoft 365** (<http://portal.office.com>) helps keep notes organized and accessible across devices.

## 9. Ask Questions

- **Tip:** Don't hesitate to ask questions during lectures or office hours to clarify doubts early.
- **Tool:** Communicate via your **LSC Student Email** through **Outlook** (<https://outlook.office.com/mail/>) to follow up with professors on difficult topics.

## 10. Review Past Exams and Quizzes

- **Tip:** Practice with previous exams to understand question formats and common topics.
- **Tool:** Review practice quizzes and exam materials uploaded by professors on your D2L Course page.

## 11. Create Mind Maps for Complex Subjects

- **Tip:** For subjects with many interrelated concepts (e.g., psychology, history), use mind maps to visualize connections.
- **Tool:** **MindMup** (<https://www.mindmup.com/>) lets you easily create and save mind maps for class subjects.

## 12. Break Down Large Tasks into Manageable Steps

- **Tip:** When overwhelmed by big assignments, break them into smaller, manageable steps. This will make studying or completing projects feel less daunting.
- **Tool:** Use **goblin.tools** (<https://goblin.tools/>) to break down tasks in a way that feels "*very demure, very mindful*." This tool simplifies tasks without overwhelming you, helping you stay calm and focused while working.

## 13. Watch Supplementary Educational Videos

- **Tip:** If a concept is unclear, watch videos for different explanations.
- **Tool:** **Khan Academy** (<https://www.khanacademy.org/>) and **CrashCourse** (<https://www.youtube.com/@crashcourse/playlists>) (via **YouTube**) offer free, high-quality educational videos on a wide range of subjects.

## 14. Use LSC Library's Quiet Study Spaces

- **Tip:** Use quiet environments such as Lone Star College libraries to minimize distractions and boost focus.
- **Tool:** **LSC Libraries** (<https://www.lonestar.edu/library/info.htm>) offer free quiet study rooms and spaces on campus for student use.

## 15. Set Specific Study Goals

- **Tip:** Define clear goals for each study session (e.g., finish two chapters, solve 10 problems).
- **Tool:** Use **Microsoft To Do** ([https://to-do.office.com/tasks/today?utm\\_source=applauncher](https://to-do.office.com/tasks/today?utm_source=applauncher)) to organize and track tasks for study goals.

## 16. Make Use of Office Hours

- **Tip:** Take advantage of office hours for one-on-one help with course material.

- **Tool:** Use **Outlook** (<https://outlook.office.com/mail/>) to schedule and track meetings with professors and advisors.

## 17. Record Lectures for Review

- **Tip:** With the instructor's permission, record lectures to revisit important points later.
- **Tool:** Use the built-in **Voice Recorder** on your phone or **Microsoft OneNote** (<https://www.microsoft365.com/launch/OneNote/?from=PortalHome>) to record and sync audio with class notes.

## 18. Stay Physically Active

- **Tip:** Incorporate regular exercise into your schedule to maintain focus and energy during study sessions.
- **Tool:** Track your steps and activity for free with built-in apps such as **Google Fit** or **Apple Health**.

## 19. Manage Stress and Mental Health

- **Tip:** Practice mindfulness and take breaks to manage stress during busy academic periods.
- **Tool:** Apps such as **Smiling Mind** (<https://www.smilingmind.com.au/smiling-mind-app>) offers guided sessions to help reduce stress and increase focus.

## 20. Stay Hydrated and Eat Well

- **Tip:** Stay hydrated and eat healthy snacks to maintain energy during long study periods!
- **Tool:** Use the free **Water Drink Reminder** (<https://apps.apple.com/us/app/water-reminder-daily-tracker/id1221965482>) app to track your water intake throughout the day.

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All tools mentioned are either free or available through LSC's **Microsoft 365** subscription.

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