Chardonnay McGlothen

Univ 150

Skrobacki

October 12, 2018

Note Taking Strategies

There are many variables that can potentially influence my style of note taking. The subject of the class and the way my professor teaches are big factors. I also feel as though the amount of resources and my accessibility to them is a big determining factor. My professors have very unique teaching styles, which require me to alter the way I take in the information they need to me receive. In my College Algebra, Psychology, and Dance and its Audience classes, the way I take my notes varies.

In my College Algebra class, my notes are neat and well put together. My professor teaches at a slow pace and makes sure everyone understands the topic before she teaches the next one. Due to the fact that she’s thorough, I don’t have to rush to write down my notes and I am able to write down everything on the board as well as everything that she says. The subject of the class also influences my style of note taking. It is a math class, which means I am writing down math problems which don’t take a lot of time to do. The subject and the style of teaching influences my note taking strategies for this class.

In my psychology class my style of note taking is drastically different. My professor doesn’t use PowerPoints or write on the board, so the lecture is verbal. My notes are messy and unorganized because I have to listen more than I write. Most of the notes are taken after class to make sure I don’t miss any key points during the lecture. Everything my professor says that I am unable to write down during lecture time, I write down after class. This is so I won’t forget any of the material. I find myself having to rewrite the notes, so I can read them better and they’ll be easier to study. I also have to use my textbook more in this class to grab a better understanding of the curriculum due to the lectures being so fast paced. The outside resource is a big help to my success in this class.

My dance class requires a different type of note taking style as well, but it resembles both my math and psychology classes. My dance professor uses Prezi presentations. She doesn’t move too fast or too slow. In that class, it is easier to take notes while listening because she is reiterating everything that’s on the slides. She also posts the notes on Blackboard, so it is not necessary to try and write every single thing down. I can write a side note reminding myself to look at the presentation after class if one of the slides is a little wordy. If I happen to miss something or don’t have a full understanding I can read the book to help clear up any questions I may have on the content.

My style of note taking is influences by many different variables. Some may feel having different note taking strategies is unnecessary, but in my case it’s very helpful. It ensures that I will have all of the information needed when it’s time to study for exams. I don’t have to worry about trying to get every word down or having my notes be neat in that moment. Having different note taking techniques has helped me be successful throughout my college career thus far.