

My study habits are basically rote memorization, in fact when it comes to classes like precalculus, biology, and sociology, I will often copy the lesson powerpoint word for word, to ingrain as much of it as I can, and if I get a little worn out, I'll make notes, and then record the rest shortly after the lesson, if my teacher posted the used powerpoint online. Outside of class, I'll usually try to quiz myself, I have way too many index cards, and it's very easy to make flashcards, as well as there being multiple programs online that you can use for the same thing. If my teacher also has online assignments posted, I'll usually do those with my notebook open, more to familiarize myself with the material than use it for just trial and error memory, in preparation for testing of course. One class that I am doing well in (or at least would like to think I'm doing well in) is sociology, and in sociology I take comprehensive notes, often copying the powerpoint slides word-for-word, and in preparation for my tests, often use my copious piles of index cards to make flash cards, putting people, concepts and processes through the ringers that is my caffeine-addled psyche to try to get it to stick, and so far, they have. I've gotten near perfect marks on all my graded assignments so far, and I also feel good about my general knowledge of the subject.

A class that I'm not so confident in my abilities is Precalculus, I've always struggled with mathematics, so naturally I put up precalculus until college, and although I somewhat regret that decision now, I think that the resources available to me here are more effective than those I could have got in my high school. To overcome this hatred of all things mathematics, I will plan to take full advantage of the tutoring resources given to me by the school, as well as organize one-on-one sessions with my teacher, to make sure that I get the concepts, formulae, and processes. I estimate that this will take upwards of five to six hours a week to curve this grade

around to at least passing, but the proper planning should at least serve to give a guideline, which I can follow with continued support, and self-evaluation. In a similar vein, I am making sure that I follow that guideline when it comes to studying, I don't get hung up, and I make sure that I keep pace, while still keeping attention during class and after. I am also taking full advantage of the on-campus math help, I just think I need to wait for the moment that something snaps, and it starts to make sense, and although that sounds dubious, I don't mean that I'll suddenly gain extreme knowledge of my subject, but rather I'll just start picking up the pace of the material, which I'd say has more to do with getting used to the environment of college than the class itself. If I have any confusion about my subject however, I am more than confident that my professor can clear up anything that I can raise a flag about. When it comes to self-evaluation, I would say that my misgivings when it comes to test scores come more from a place of unfamiliarity about the subject than anything, which is why after my first test, which didn't come back so positive, I immediately went back to work, not only reviewing the correct answers of the test, but seeing how they got there, all the way to asking my teacher if he would let me do an alternate version of the test simply for studying, I couldn't do that, but I've been voraciously consuming the practice and problems of my previous math unit, and if I took the test now I can guarantee that I would more than double my current test 1 score. On the same subject as studying, one technique that I could use more in class is interacting with my professor more, I do it out of class, but I feel like I'm too polite to ask anything right out, so next class, as soon as something comes to mind, I'll screech it out, even if I don't need the answer to solve the problem, at this point anything that can strengthen my grade should be taken and used, I need all the help I can get, and I'm planning on taking all the help that the school throws my way. Something out of class would likely be study groups, I've taken advantage of many of the school resources when it comes to one-on-one

learning, and even learning just by myself, but I've mostly stayed away from group learning, because I've had some rather bad experiences with it in the past, mostly when it came to middle school, but it's a different environment now, so I think I should give it a shot, it can only help, and it's not like my group mates will be able to physically steal the knowledge from my head, and leave me with nothing. Overall, I feel confident about my semester, even in classes that I'm not doing so well in, since there's plenty of time to turn around my grades, so long as I don't become complacent in my current mediocrity in some of them. I feel like I know the resources at my disposal, and I'm prepared to use them. I paid for them with the tuition after all, why wouldn't I use them.